

## Randolph County Commissioners

February 3, 2020

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

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Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

### **Jake Donham – RCFFO Building parking lot asphalt**

Jake said he has emailed a vendor with no response and another vendor had some strange request. They wanted me to measure it and tell how much. I thought if he can't come and physically put a bid together that's up to you. I have 2 bids, one is American Asphalt out of Muncie that has done work this past fall to buy time for this winter. Then Dirt Works out of Farmland also bid on it. Jake said Dirt Works bid is a lot more current. So, I did touch base with American Asphalt since their quote was put together last October. I just wanted those guys to double check and make sure that quote was still good for this year. They were on site and looked at it and said there are some other areas that has changed over the winter but they would take care of that while they are there. No questions asked. He will stick with his original numbers. I didn't want any conflict with him when they come if they come to do some.

Mike thought there's was a little less isn't it?

Jake said yes. American Asphalt was \$67,530 and Dirt Works came in at \$71,457.70. I was impressed with both quotes they were pretty much doing the same thing and were pretty close.

Mike asked how long does the Dirt Works bid last?

Laura stated it was until July, 2020.

Mike ask if we could take this under advisement today or do you want to line them up the way they need to be lined up.

Jake brought quotes here to try and get an answer so I don't want to delay it. The thing with this these guys they are booking for this year. So, I told both if we could do this we wanted to do it during school shut down, summer vacation, because with the GRIC program & Head Start there is a whole lot less traffic hopefully this summer. So, it's going to have to be some coordinating to try and get sections done then re-park everybody and it's bad enough when they are stripping

it, little alone when they are trying to do a major renovation of it. Jake said it's entirely up to you guys.

Gary asked if we have had American Asphalt do work for us.

Jake said the past 2 times we have done any stripping or sealing it has been American Asphalt.

Tom as if Jake mention to them about widening the parking spaces a little bit. If they could get configuration or hopefully make that work so that it's not so tight.

Jake said we could ask them, they striped it the last time and I thought they did a great job. I haven't had any issues with people parking but we can.

Tom thinks they are a little narrow compared to other places he has parked.

Mike said if you widen them you are going to lose them.

Jake said right.

Mike said if it's working I don't know why we would want to do that.

Gary moved that we go ahead and go with American Asphalt Inc. with the bid of \$67,530 for our RCFFO parking lot.

Tom seconded.

Mike asked Jake if he had any other questions. Jake said no, but Gary might.

Mike said all in favor of having American Asphalt repave the RCFFO parking lot signify by saying aye. All opposed same sign. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary asked where we are in the status of the heating.

Jake said we are definitely gaining on the project as a whole in the basement, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor is almost 100% completion other than some troll work. Which means it can be up and running, it is up and running but the controls not being in place though we are strictly heat right now. We are monkeying with areas so they don't get to hot and trying to keep them at a good balance until we get it under control. A week ago they started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, it was saved for last because it will be the most difficult with the tighter ceiling space and routing. Once they got in there they found out routing options were going to make it a lot easier to do. They did run into a hiccup last week, they found 4 units that were going to leave in place. The more they looked at them they decided it would make more sense to get them replaced and then we are 100% complete on new units in this building. They were hoping to save us some money on the front end of the project, but it will be better to replace them. All of the units will have been 100% changed out. I don't know what the lead time is on getting that equipment in. They will be able to jump back down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and get completed in the meantime. So, they are getting dangerously close. Just a

rough guess would be about 1 more month and will be wrapping up the majority of it. There is just a lot of loose ends, getting chases button-up and getting the guys in here to do the work.

Gary said he thinks the people are seeing a change. We still have issues and you know that but we are seeing a change and that is important. Considering what we have had to go through.

Jake said I was really impressed this year. We have had a pretty easy winter compared to the past. The boilers carry the building by themselves and keep everyone comfortable. So that is telling Jake that we are going to be right there. Once they get the complete project done and up and running it will be more efficiently comfortable.

Gary ask Jake about the arborist he had here to address the trees.

Jake said he would be here around January or February because he is booked that far out. I will get with him and see where he is at and try to get him here.

Mike ask Gary if he wanted to amend his motion to pay for the paving to America Asphalt with a quote of \$67,530 out of Cum Cap.

Gary said yes.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Deb McGriff-Tharp – Touch the Truck**

Deb said last year we did touch the truck. It was on Franklin Street and the courthouse lawn and was a success. It was for child abuse prevention. We don't know how many kids came through but we know the church did 100 hot dogs and they ran out. Not everyone ate hot dogs. We talked with the mayor and the street will be blocked off. We will just need permission to use the lawn on that side, because we have games and hand-outs like literacy coalition, child advocate and DCS did popcorn. Jaycee House was here, foster parent units where here. I am asking to use the lawn on April 4, 10:00-1:00. Last year the judge was here around 8 to help set up things. When 1:00 comes we are pretty much cleaned up by 1:15. One of the things is to ask if we can put the pots of flowers at the entrance with the pin wheels in them also. DCS puts April as child Abuse Prevention Month in front of the statue. So, people can see it from the highway. Then this year the Children Bureau offered to do a port-a-pot so there would be that issue of having it out there also.

Gary ask if this was going to be on Franklin St.

Deb said yes it will be.

Mike asked if they will be using the pavilion. We will for signing the proclamation. We will use the walkways and was off both sides of the walkway with the vendors.

Mike asked Meeks if they should sign a use agreement.

Meeks said if you want to.

Deb said they set a card table up for the Mayor to sign. He was late last year so he just stood up and did it.

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

**Mike Haffner - CDL training, Restricting county roads**

Mike Haffner said we are trying to look into how to help employment out at the Highway Department. I am recommending to look into hiring non CDL. Have the county pay for the CDL schooling. We could send them to a 4 week course to get the CDL. A lot of the CDL people that presently have CDL's got them because they wanted to drive a truck. Unfortunately, at the highway department maybe only 20% of the work out there is CDL required. We need more manual laborers and it's been tough to attract CDL drivers at the wage scale and they just want to drive a truck. This way we might have an opportunity to go after the individuals that just want to work in an outside environment. Maybe they can't afford to get there CDL's so this might give us an opportunity to attract this type of individuals. Right now, the Sage truck driving school at IVY Tech in Muncie has a Class A 4-week course for \$5200.00. They would have to have their permit and physical before they would attend classes. Right now presently every 2 weeks they take new students on. We had word that you couldn't get CDL's by yourself without going to school effective February 7<sup>th</sup>. That has now been taken off of the platter until 2022. There might be an opportunity to hire CDL employees and have the highway personal teach them and help them get their CDL.

Mike Wickersham said hire non CDL.

Mike Haffner said yes. Again, just setting in motion to be able to look at the opportunity to employee non CDL and give them so many months to achieve their CDL to become full-time employee. Everything we do unfortunately, snow plowing, driving the larger trucks for road repair would have to have CDL licenses.

Mike Wickersham ask how many of those do you need.

Mike Haffner said right now we are 4 people short.

Tom said that is 16 routes for snow plowing.

Mike Haffner said he has 16 snow plowing routes with 13 employees. Theoretically we are structured for 19. Last year we were at 21. I would like to put in a bridge team this year.

Mike Wickersham said you are down 4.

Mike Haffner said 3 right now.

Tom said you have one leaving in a week and one leaving this week.

Mike Wickersham asked how many CDL drivers now, 13.

Mike Haffner said after this week 13.

Mike Wickersham asked how many would you like to have.

Mike Haffner said theoretically I would like to have 17.

Mike Wickersham asked what we pay our CDL drivers.

Mike Haffner said they start out at \$15.42.

Mike Wickersham asked how and when does that change.

Mike Haffner said basically during budget time we can ask for that wage to be increased.

Mike Wickersham said we start them out at \$15.42 and don't get bumped in 90 days or 6 months that is what we pay a CDL driver.

Mike Haffner said we have a driver and a driver operator as they gain experience I can bump them up to \$15.80. So a lot of my folks that has been there for 6 months are making \$15.80. Then we have operator/mechanics they are at \$16.42. Again, it was presented before that is well below the pay scale to any other county.

Mike Wickersham asked if we have any other employee's that are non CDL.

Mike Haffner said no. Summer help are the only non CDL & office administrator.

Mike said how do these other counties keep their CDL driver once they do it.

Mike Haffner said right now everyone is looking into the same ordeal. We are all having struggles with CDL. So, they are basically hiring employees and giving them 6 months to achieve there CDL. If they have to pay for their schooling like the counties or agencies send their employees to an actual CDL school, they write up a 3 year contract that is pro-rated and they have to sign it saying they will stay for 3 years or if they leave they have to reimburse the cost for the training. He said he is trying to get his hand on some of those contracts for us to look at. Then I can pass them on to the body and see if that is the direction we want to go. So there are a lot of departments that are allowed to hire non CDL, then they train them internally. We are not set up to do that right now. He said I am not sure if we raised it to \$20.00 an hour for a CDL driver that it would solve our woes of hiring. He said it seems like the ones we are getting applications from is 20-30-year veterans of driving and that is all they want to do. I need to go after the folks that the CDL would be a bonus, but they want to work out in the elements and repair roads and bridges and brush and everything else. We are having problems attracting employment. I think as an incentive for a person who doesn't have the means to get a CDL. Then we would be able to hire them and put them in school or train them ourselves. That would

potentially open up a larger area of employees. I don't have anything wrote down, just asking if this is something we want to pursue and look into.

Gary asked if all the drivers have a Class A CDL.

Mike Haffner said basically we have only 7 that has a class A, and the rest are B's. B's are the easiest to obtain. We have a few drivers that were basically grandfathered in under an A. I have a few that actually came from truck driving that had an A. A's are great because you can have them do anything. I think we need to encourage our employees we have today to get A's but if you are only making the same pay scale on the B's. The B's are a lot easier to achieve that is what they are going to get.

Gary said this area has more options in the open market.

Mike Haffner said yes. That is the fall back, you give people opportunities to get their Class A they could get \$20 to \$25 bucks an hour anywhere you go.

Mike Wickersham said I don't have a problem with you looking into it farther and get a contract. The contract is only as good as the contractee. If he takes that contract and then he takes off then we have to try and collect what we have invested in him/her and that might be difficult. I would be more inclined to take that \$5200 dollars per employee and roll it into wages for current employees or any new employee.

Mike Haffner said with the law changing back that would be my first option is to train them internally and not have that expense or contract.

Gary asked it would be easier for you to train a Class B than a Class A internally.

Mike Haffner said on an A they have restrictions. First of all pretty much all our equipment is automatic. So there for when they go to get there license they would have that automatic on their license that they wouldn't be able to drive manual. If we go after an A the only equipment I would have is a dump truck and trailer. If we would ever get a semi or would want to drive a semi then that wouldn't qualify. I would be able to provide an A but it would have a double restriction. One that would restrict from the semi then the second would be automatic. Unless we would rent a vehicle for them to take their test on. He said if they were to go to these classes they could drive anything we need them to drive in the future.

Mike Wickersham said you need 4 and if you spend \$5200 on each that is about \$20,000 dollars. Which based on the 17 employees I calculate that to be about \$.60 per hour. If you went to council and wanted to bump your employees up, I don' know if you can bump you're A employee or your B employee because they are better qualified. I would think if you could set a wage that you think would keep our current employees satisfied and be able to offer a new employee to get into our department. It's just not only the wage and the benefit as well. I know the younger guys aren't interested in the benefit and much as the older gentlemen are.

Mike Haffner said that's correct.

Mike Wickersham said he still thinks the better wage is the place to begin. If your budget can stand that, evidently it can stand the schooling.

Mike Haffner agreed.

Mike Wickersham said this has to be taken to the council and convince them. If we want to keep our staff, then we need to pay them more money to do that. He said I would be more inclined when you are looking into the schooling and the policies and the contracts and the things necessary to do that I would be more inclined to see if we can get more money for our department. He said \$ 15.42 is not very much for a CDL truck driver.

Mike Haffner said when he talked to Scott at the CDL training. I ask what a standard wage is. They are getting flooded for businesses trying to get the students. Right now, they are offering \$3500 sign on bonuses and up to \$24 and \$25 bucks an hour or mileage equivalent to that. That is the going rate is for an A driver. Now some of them might not have the benefit package we provide. Most certainly we are not looking at that kind of wage but I think a little bit of a bump in wage would help. I will get on the council's March agenda to see if we can't get their wage bumped this year to try and keep personnel.

Mike Wickersham said all you need to do is set down and develop a plan.

Mike Haffner said we will get that plan and give me several weeks to get it together.

Mike Wickersham said then you can check into the IVY Tech program.

Mike Haffner said he is leaning more towards training them ourselves internally and save the \$5200.

Mike Wickersham said if you investigate it you could get a copy of the contract to find out from other counties how they are doing that. That would be valuable information.

Gary asked if it would be possible to get one person certified as a trainer.

Mike Haffner asked that if he could be certified to be a trainer and they said NO. You would have to be certified to be able to teach, which would be around \$15,000 to \$20,000. They are even having trouble finding certified teachers to teach their classes. So, it wouldn't be impossible for one local agency to be able to teach areas. If they would go through the schooling they supply all the trucking, equipment and all the liability.

Mike Haffner said the other thing is the bridges and roads are our biggest assets that the county has. We are falling behind on that. Again this is unpopular but most counties are going down this path in restricting roads and bridges. I am recommending that we potentially look into not restricting the whole county by any means, but we have some isolated situations. We are going to lose some bridges if we don't start restricting and controlling the traffic that is on them. We have 10-ton structures that basically posted 10 ton but trucks roll over them every day to get to

grain haulers, commercial trucks. We know they are out there and we are not doing anything to stop it. We are going to have to look into trying to enforcing it.

Mike Wickersham asked so if we have a posted 10-ton bridge and a 20-ton vehicle goes over it how do you propose we restrict that.

Mike Haffner has talked to other counties that have ordinances and therefore you create an ordinance. Then the local agencies would be able to ticket a vehicle if they are violating it. So, if there are trucks already going over a 10-ton structures over weight it should be enforced today. We might have to help the sheriff department with some local funding to help them with enough man power to enforce things.

Mike Wickersham said you have to prove he is over 10 tons; how do you do that.

Mike Haffner said the DOT said they are not going to help us it would be the local agencies that have to enforce it. He said it goes back to the county providing the Sherriff's Department with a vehicle with scales and everything else to be able to enforce it.

Mike Wickersham said I understand that and maybe it's time to do that.

Mike Haffner said I got my own labor woes and issues and I think pretty much everyone in the county is the same way. I think at some point the county is going to have to decide what we are going to do.

Mike Wickersham said so the bridges we have out there are posted correctly. The problem we have is violators are running over those bridges that weigh too much. He said the answer to that is to hiring a county highway sheriff that has the authority to weigh and ticket those people that are crossing over. He said that has been discussed with council before, if not the council members have talked about it individually to me that it might be time to do that.

Mike Haffner said the same way with the bridge repair crew. It cost a fortune to replace these bridges. I think if we have to spend some money to support our program like that I as the highway superintendent would defiantly be in favor of anything we can do to help the situation. I don't think the answer is to go out and just restrict. If you restrict you don't enforce you have no teeth.

Mike Wickersham said they are already restricted.

Mike Haffner said and they are still going over them.

Mike Wickersham said we are relying on our good citizens to follow that sign.

Mike Haffner said it might not be our citizens, they might be out of county.



Gary Girton said we have a lot of that. He said I set out there a year ago for 25-30 minutes there was 8-10 semis not one of them was from Randolph County they were all going south. That road certainly isn't made for that kind of traffic.

Mike Haffner said it's not made for that kind of traffic, but that is encouraging them to come to our county.

Gary said the reason they are using that road is because they are overweight.

Mike Haffner stated we have 2 bridges over by Union City 100 North between 227 & 32 to the state line. That is a short cut to cardinal Ethanol. We are already looking at a bridge deck and I am afraid if we don't start doing something to keep that kind of traffic off of that we are going to see a reduction on that one. We also have 400 North up by the Stateline north of Union City. They are using that as a bypass road so they don't have to go through Union City.

Gary said we talked about it with Perry Knox last week about coming up with a bridge crew. Putting together and training and helping do a bridge crew. He said we need to get that on paper and see financially why that is going to benefit us. I think we could address that in the commissioners and council meeting. Also, we need to pursue designated roads for truck drivers. Farm Bureau went through a fair amount of work to come up with that. There may be some modifications and changes to that. I think that needs to be pursued because as you said earlier in your conversation we have way too many roads in this county to maintain and upgrade for the kind of funds we have available.

Mike Haffner replied yes.

Gary said we have a grinder that we can do some of the roads and other equipment that we can do ourselves. We can start by going back and determine which of our main roads we need to designate. Make them capable of handling the traffic. There will be exceptions. A trucker has to get from point A to point B and there is not a road for them to do it and they have to get over there. We understand that. They also need to understand that they don't need to be putting 20,000 pounds more on their truck than they can legally haul.

Mike Haffner said just because they don't want to go around to the highway. He said that is why 1200 West it has a 10-ton structure that they are crossing every day. We are making plans to upgrade that one. We have to give them some routes.

Gary said that is why we need to do something.

Mike Haffner said that is why we need to enforce it.

Gary said we need to get a point to it saying this is what we are going to do. Then plan on how we are going to do each step. He said until we get some of this stuff together and down on paper and let us all set down and discuss it, we are not gaining anything.

Mike Haffner said he would have a private meeting with the sheriff and bring him up to speed on potentially adding personal to his department if need to be. Also, what equipment might be needed as well as the highway side? It would be a joint effort between a few different departments.

Mike Haffner said the only other thing I have is SJCA contract is amended. They found out there are several bridges that do not need to be load rated. We can pass on which would save us around \$100,000.00. I just got a new contract.

Perry Knox with SJCA the original LPA consultant agreement for your county wide bridges inspections was \$554,850.30. What I am presenting to you today is an amended contract in the amount of \$433,514.85 for a reduction of \$121,355.45. There are several reasons for this. Initially on the cycle previous to us there were load grades required for all bridges in all counties. That was a federally mandated program. There has been a lot of discuss back and forth that these load ratings. A bridge is not going to deteriorate to a point when it has a high enough sufficiency rating the bridge is not going to require a 4-year load rating. They can be put into what INDOT and federal highway has adopted. Which is called an extended frequency program. We have applied and submitted and reduced the number. Randolph County has 216 to be load rated and 155 of them have been taken off this current program. That are the results of the reduction of your fees. There are some other little things in there. You still have a closed bridge that still has to be looked at to make sure the signage is maintained. Small reduction in fees on that part. The total reduction is \$121.335.45. The federal government pays 80% of the total contract of that \$433,514.85. What I have in front of you today is the copy of the LPA consultant agreement that needs to be signed by the county so I can submit it to INDOT for reduction of fees. The county will see most of that reduction in the very first cycle because that is when the load ratings are done. So, this year you will be getting the reduction in your budget requirements.

Tom Chalfant said we are saving the federal government \$80,000 dollars. Perry said you are saving 80% of \$121,000.00.

Mike Wickersham needs motion to approve. Tom moves to approve. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Wickersham said both things you brought up this morning need to be pursued if not on a full-time basis then on a part time basis. If we set ourselves out on Bloomingsport Road at the right time with the right equipment we might catch some violators and make a statement. He said again that is something we need to discuss with council.

**Debi Wymer – Apply for a vaccine grant & Internship**

Mike said you are applying for a vaccine grant.

Debi said she is applying for a reimbursable grant. It will help us in our endeavors to increase vaccinations recommend by the ACIT.

Mike said you are asking for permission to apply for the grant. He asked if she had done this before.

Debi said no this is a new one.

Mike doesn't see a reason not to approve the request.

Tom makes a motion to approve the grant application. Gary seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Debi said we have the opportunity to have an intern in the county. Her name is Dr Adeyemi. She is from Nigeria. She is a graduate of a college of Health Sciences in Nigeria with a medical degree. She is in the US to be with her family and practice primary care in the United States. She is currently enrolled in a Master of Public Health program while awaiting an assignment to family medicine residence program. Her internship in public health is totally unfunded. This is a part of her requirements for her program. She has much interest with working with our health department. Mike welcomed Dr Adeyemi.

Mike said he did not think that the Commissioner's need to authorize this.

Meeks said the Health Board would need to do this.

**Susie Girton & Jimmy Tharp– White River Fire Station purchasing fuel**

Susie Girton said we are here to ask permission to again purchase our fuel for the fire department from the county highway.

Jimmy was advised that we would not be able to purchase fuel. We found alternative fuel, but would like to come back and start over.

Susie said it isn't cost effective for us.

Mike Wickersham asked if they had talked to Mike Haffner.

Susie said they have not.

Mike Wickersham said when we opened it up to the sheriff department and our county groups.

Tom said he thought they were willing to continue the service.

Jimmy said we still have our keys; will it take the same key.

Mike Haffner said the key fobs won't work. You will be given a number and all the billing will remain the same. There will be a gate on the facility that is coded. If it is after hours you will need that code and that will let you through the gate. You will then have another number with a department and vehicle number that you would enter in on a key pad. He said if we would every

have to change code on a gate because of a security problem. All departments would be notified. Right now, everyone is going to be fueling the same as always.

Susie asked if we could start now fueling back at the old pumps at the county highway department.

Mike Haffner said yes you can.

Mike Wickersham asked if they buy a lot of gas after hours.

Jimmy said depending on whether we have a fire or not.

Mike Haffner said so right now it is what you use to do. In the future there might need to be some training.

Mike Wickersham said request approved.

Susie said our open house will be March 15 from 2-5. Will have food snacks, tours and the dedication.

### **Dakota Adams – Declare Randolph County Second Amendment Sanctuary County**

Dakota said I haven't been able to meet any of you guys. Brent Halper who runs the gun shop here in Winchester and has been helping him out with this. I am a resident of Randolph County and a Marine Corp Infantry Veteran. I am in school to be a gun smith right now and an ardent supporter of individual liberty. I work full-time, full-time dad and student and husband. This isn't really about me. I and Brent are here to speak, there are people in the back that are here to speak. In the last 14 days people who live in Randolph have signed a petition who are supporting what we are doing. There is a lot of controversy that surrounds what we are trying to do. We are not anti-government. We are pro-constitutional government and anti-Tierney and will defend the constitution and our government against Tierney. We are pro-constitutional law enforcement and not anti-law enforcement. Its men and women who makes laws to protect life over the pursuit of happiness if no laws were like that to exist. We are here because we believe that gun control is a virus. It takes root in an unhealthy society and grows until there is nothing left of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. What we are proposing is a vaccine for Randolph County. There are those who say that what we are trying to do is pointless. Indiana and Randolph County are already pretty good and the history of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and protecting there right. We are very fortunate for that. To other people I suggest looking towards Virginia. Virginia had a pretty good record on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and now it's all but gone. Almost every county in Virginia has declared themselves a sanctuary for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. One sheriff went so far as so say he would deputize the whole county before he would enforce any further gun control laws. I suggest look at Cook County Illinois which contains the higher violent yet extremely regulated second amendment city in Chicago. Basically, they decided for the whole state what firearms they were going to be able to own from now on. Now the majority of counties in Illinois are 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary movement is growing. It's not just 105 cities and counties in Virginia and 64 counties in Illinois but it's all around us. More than 30 in Kentucky and 7 in Ohio and 6 in Michigan. There are movements in every

single county in Indiana just like ours. Twenty-six are pending in decisions just like we are to declare themselves a sanctuary. Three counties James, Switzerland and Franklin have already declared themselves a sanctuary already. Switzerland and Franklin go back to 2013 so they are not even recent. Jennings County is the most recent one. The mission statement for our petition we passed out is as follows:

## **Petition to Establish Randolph County as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary**

The 2nd Amendment of The Constitution of the United States of America states, "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

Therefore, we the people, the citizens of Randolph County wish to solidify our 2nd Amendment rights to the state and federal governments by proclaiming Randolph County, Indiana a 2nd Amendment sanctuary. We hereby petition the Sheriff and Commissioners to publicly and officially announce this county as such and stand by its citizens and their constitutional rights.

Furthermore, we implore the Commissioners and Sheriff to neither recognize or enforce any future law that further infringes upon the 2nd Amendment rights of the citizens of Randolph County. Laws such as red flag confiscations, gun bans of any kind, "high capacity" magazine bans, or the enforcement of any other law that violates the 2nd Amendment in any way.

What we are asking you to do today is pretty simple. We want you to honor the oath that you took to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the State of Indiana when you were elected by us and took your position as commissioners and sheriff of our county.

Mike said we have the Red Flag law in Indiana. So, does Switzerland, Franklin and Jennings counties sheriff not enforce the Red Flag law or has he been tested.

Dakota said for a fact the one in Jennings County is not going to. He came out 2 weeks ago in a commissioner meeting he would not be enforcing anything.

Brent stated that Indiana was one of the first states to have a Red Flag law. The way that Indiana implements the Red Flag law are vastly different than what is being proposed today. I believe a police officer has to hear a threat of violence or impending danger before he can go to the judge to ask for a warrant to take someone's firearms.

Mike said that is not how I read it. I read Indiana's and if I think you're a danger to yourself or someone else. If I can convince him you are.

Dakota understands it to be if an office can believe there is a threat of eminent danger upon contract with an individual that is one way to go about it. Or if someone is close to you knows you personally believes you can be a danger, this is hearsay. Even if you do get your lawfully obtained property back, how much money would you have spent to pay a lawyer and time to go to court. In all of these things granted it sounds like a good idea on paper. People who are not of sound mind should be something done but I don't know if depriving them of several of their constitutional rights is the way to go about doing it. This is definitely one of the most controversial laws that has come about.

Mike Wickersham said I'm not sure if there are any existing restrictions from the state that would apply to us on gun rights beyond the Red Flag Law. I know there are some proposed.

Dakota said yes there has been some proposed and that is what we are trying to get ahead of. We are very fortunate now but we may not be fortunate in the future. We might not always have you gentlemen as our commissioners or the sheriff. We may not have the people in control at the state level that we do now. Recently Senate Bill 203 that was proposed to ban high capacity magazines, restrict age limit for some people to buy firearms.

Mike said to buy a rifle. Eighteen-year old can't buy a gun but they can buy a rifle. Then the bump stocks that turn semi-automatic into automatic. Mike said he is not inclined to have an AR-15. Mike said I understand that you want us to declare this a sanctuary city. I not sure what that means to the public or anyone else if the Commissioner's do that. We as commissioners have a lot authority in county, one of the biggest is over our highway and bridges. One of the things we don't have is authority over our sheriff. Frankly if he choose to ignore us, he can. Just as if the judges choose to ignore us they can. I am not sure other than for the purposes of making the statement, I'm not sure what us declaring Randolph County a sanctuary city means. Coming off that I don't think if, the argument is going to be whether I agree with you or not. It's a matter of if the Red Flag Law a violation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Some say it is some will say it won't be. Is 18 years of age buying a rifle a violation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment? If you are in the army at 18 you can shoot a rifle and AR-15. If you are not you will not be able to shoot one. If this law is passed. So that argument goes back and forth with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment with everything. Whether or not it's a violation of the constitution, if the state legislator determines that it is. Then from a perspective of a citizen, I feel like as a citizen I am going to abide by what the state has ask me abide by. So, I am going to follow that law even if I think it's a violation of the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Amendment. I may argue with my legislator but you shouldn't do that. I may petition my legislator. But if they do it I will respect their authority and abide by that. I guess what I am saying is if I am going to name Randolph County as sanctuary city, then I really am as a newly elected official of Randolph County telling the state that they really have no business telling me what to do when it comes to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. And I can't do that. I would not today name Randolph County as a sanctuary county. Don't disagree with you on a lot of things regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment but don't think it's necessary to name Randolph County as a sanctuary county. Is the position I am taking on it. Again, it means very little if the sheriff decides we should have a sanctuary county, then he can do that.

Dakota said what this tells the citizens of Randolph County is that a lot of the laws passes in Virginia turned people who have never committed a crime in their life into felons overnight. Because what they are asking them to do or telling them to or forcing them to do is destroy or turn in their lawfully obtained property. Those people will not comply, they will not.

Mike said I'm not sure I will.

Dakota stated the 1000 people I represent will not comply with laws that are put forth that ban. If the one in Indiana would have passed it would have banned the position of 30 round magazines and have a penalty of imprisonment I would spend a long time in jail. That is my lawfully obtained property, I'm not giving that to anybody.

Mike said if we would make Randolph County a sanctuary county, you would still spend a long time in jail. Because we would not have anything to protect you by.

Dakota said that would come down to the sheriff saying if he is going to enforce that law.

Mike said it's back to the sheriff whether in his opinion we are a sanctuary county.

Dakota said what you said is true these have not legal standing. If the state says this is the way it's going to be, then that's the way it's going to be. What this is, is a promise from the commissioners and the sheriff that they stand behind us.

Mike said the commissioners have nothing to promise you Dakota. Other than a public statement that we are a sanctuary county.

Dakota said so what this comes down to is we need to have a discussion with Sheriff Moystner.

Mike said in my opinion it is. I really do. I am not going to tell the sheriff he can't do that and I not telling the sheriff he has to do that because I don't have the authority to do that. We don't have the authority to do that.

Dakota said if you passed an ordinance here, if you adopted a legal ordinance it would apply to the next sheriff.

Mike said an ordinance cannot be an ordinance if it is contrary to state law.

Dakota said what about all the counties in Virginia that did.

Mike responded I don't know about Virginia. I don't know what that means.

Meeks Cockerill responded he would doubt they will hold up either.

Tom Chalfant asked if Virginia was a Commonwealth.

Meeks said we are under restrictions if it is contrary to state law.

Mike said it goes back to the enforcement.

Dakota said this might be a question to you sheriff. If I'm going to my parents' house and I get pulled over for speeding, and he sees a 30-round magazine in my truck or a firearm that has been banned by the State of Indiana in my truck. Are you going to enforce that and put me in jail?

Sheriff Moystner said you are asking me a hypothetical. On something that has not taken place it's not even before the legislation current. The statement I would make to you at this point in time is I did take an oath. I have taken several through my lifetime both in the military and as a law enforcement and as sheriff of this county. The thing that every one of those oaths I have ever taken, take precedence over everything else is the United States Constitution and that 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. I am a believer in that. I am also a believer that the county sheriff is supposed to be the voice of calm in this storm. I support what you are doing. I support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. However, this point in time my opinion this is a citizen's issue to be addressed to them. I don't believe the sheriff has the authority to declare a sanctuary city. I will tell you as long as I am in office I not coming to your door to take guns. The member of my department and the officers I work with all support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. The offices of this county all support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. We are not coming to your house to take your guns, it is not going to happen so I don't care what federal law they have. We talk about the Red Flag Law. Very controversial, I agree with you. We had a conversation on the phone this week. It is one of those situations that they have abused by government. I can also tell you that I have used the red flag law, I have explained the situation that I had a gentleman with a gun that thought someone was breaking into his house. He repeatedly fired that gun multiple times not just one day. Through the front door of his residence. Right outside his front door is a US highway. The only option I had to get that gun was the Red Flag law. After talking to him there was no doubt in my mind what the issue was. He was transported to the hospital for mental evolution. They kept him. So, in that case the Red Flag Law worked perfectly. But I agree with you if you get a law enforcement officer that does not use common sense I believe that is a law that can be abused. As so other laws can be abused. I know as far as my agency the Red Flag Law we establish probable cause as an officer before we take that gun. We want all the facts not rumors or hearsay. We want to see it and we will take an action. We do that for the safety. It is like I have explained before, when you have liberties and freedoms you give up some security I believe that is society. When you give up the security for more security you give up freedoms. The issue is finding the balance and I believe that is why the citizens have elections and vote as to who is in office and not in office. Because you moved that line as citizens on how much freedom and security you want. I



tell you as the sheriff of this county and I can speak for the other law enforcement officers of this county we are not going after gun grabs, we are not going after taking magazines for over capacity. But I think at this time it is society this is an issue that the citizens need to have their voice heard. I think you are doing the right thing, it affects the state level. The constitution outweighs any state laws. State laws outweigh any county ordinance. The commissioners can't enact a law out on US 27 in a 55 MPH zone to make it a 30-mph zone. They lack that authority; the state has to do that. So that is where you get it trickled down to the commissioners. But I don't believe the sheriff has the authority to declare a sanctuary city. He is the executive branch of that instead of the legislator. I can tell you as the sheriff we are not coming to get your guns. I have no desire. Sheriff Moystner ask Dakota if that answered his question.

Dakota said to an extent. Dakota wouldn't expect any law enforcement agency to go door to door and take guns. It's logistically impossible. I have talked to people who are an alarmist when it comes to that. I don't see that ever being the case, but as far as investigations of other crimes that may have been committed. You may discover items that have been banned by future at this level.

Sheriff Moystner said you are talking hypothetical things. I can't answer that. Am I going for gun grabs, no. I have no desire to do that. Am I going to take ammunition out of your house, no. I am not interested in taking magazines out of you house. You are asking me to answer hypothetical that I don't know what the hypothetical will be in the future.

Dakota said it isn't a matter of if, it's a matter of when we will see this in Indiana. That is where I am going with that. It's a hypothetical until it's not. There will be those times and, in those instances, will those laws be enforced.

Mike Wickersham said I guess I understand that. There will be time for the county sheriff and commissioner or anyone else in the county with authority, mayor or city police chief to say at that time were not going to come and get your pistol. Then you would have a reason to do that. Today it's all hypothetical. I am not saying it would happen then but what we would do today wouldn't guarantee what somebody will do in the future. I think what you gotten is a statement from the sheriff, which is a pretty strong statement. That he agrees with what you are thinking and your concern. At this point in time there is no reason for him to come do any of this stuff. Asking him to answer a hypothetical question becomes very difficult and he can't do that.

Dakota said I can see where this is going. Our effort was here today to get ahead of that and not wait until it's on our doorstep. So, when those hypotheticals become questions become real questions. We wanted to get ahead of that and not wait until it is right here on our doorsteps. I believe action is always better than reaction. At that point it would be reaction. We are reacting things that are happening at that second. Now we are trying to get action. We don't wait until our house is burning down to go by a fire extinguisher.

Tom said your sort of reacting to sanctuary cities, which I believe are unconstitutional. That right there is framing the debate. You're creating the same thing that you're trying to say the opposite of what they are saying. Our constitution protects what you are already saying and they have no constitution basis to do it. They want their people to honor that. He said we all know

people who own guns who we wish didn't, who are unstable, who could have a flash point and then we have 13 cop cars shoot up in Lynn again. Which will happen again. That is the end for this and a lot of these things happen an emotional reaction of the rights to bear arms. Then we have people that should not bear arms that do. So the answer to your question is how we are going to solve this and how did we get to this point of our country. Were so divided about this issue. I don't have any answers for that. I know how we got here but how we are going to get back is a different question.

Mike said the final statement from this body, for me as a member of this body is what we do here today would be nothing more than empty action. I am not in favor of taking empty action. If we pass an ordinance saying it's a sanctuary city, it is not an enforceable ordinance. It means nothing, except our statement we think the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is gone. I don't think it is.

Dakota stated there is very little left of it. We are thankful that we live in Indiana and Randolph County that it has not hit us yet. I do understand that the people at the state level it does mean nothing. But what it is, is a show of solidarity from a community of people who says we have had enough. We stand together.

Mike thinks we can do that at the ballot box.

Dakota said he thinks we can too.

Gary said I have shot weapons all my life and I hope they are never taken. I try to use them carefully and protect those I need to. He agrees with Mike that an ordinance is just a piece of paper we would sign and has no value. I also think that Art is making a valid statement that is basically the belief those of us that we are not going to take these things. We are not going to use force to take them or suggest they be taken. That is his position as chief law enforcement officer of Randolph County. He directs all those people under him to do the same because he is the one calling the shots. As our attorney tells us if we do an ordinance it is superseded by the state statute. We have no ability to overturn those or change their recommendations. I hope we can have discussions that we are all able to do what the constitution permits us and allows us to do on bearing firearms.

Mike asked Dakota if he had a copy of his petition or mission statement.

Dakota said he has a copy of the mission statement that you can have.

Art said Dakota for the next 3 years I am in this position, you're not going to worry about uniforms taking your weapons, unless you have committed a crime.

Brent said that is not what we are concerned about Art. I have known you most of my life and have nothing but respect and faith in you guys. We are concerned about after that possible 3 -7 years.

Art said what I am telling you it's my belief at this point in time that the citizens are the first line of defense with the state government. I believe the sheriffs of Indiana stand that line when it comes to stand that line. Right now, I think it's your time.

Dakota said so we are not going forward with anything at this time.

Tom said I wouldn't act today I would take it under consideration.

Dakota said we understand as far as the state is concerned they don't care what we do here.

Mike Wickersham said JD Prescott and Jeff Raatz should both take issue. They should also take consideration of what we do. I'm not sure an ordinance has any greater weight than me or Tom calling them.

Dakota said if you do take this under consideration here is something to think about. What it means to 1000+ people who has signed this. You have heard what we have to say and you think there is some merit to what we have to say. It gives us that the county has stood in solidarity and our elected officials has stood with us. That this a fight worth fighting and it's worth protecting. We understand that if the state wants to come in and do whatever they want to do there is nothing we can do to stop it. It is symbolic is what it is. That is all we are asking.

Mike Wickersham said a symbolic gesture would mean more if there is a reason to do it. Not something in the future and it would be reactionary. We did not have this when the red flag law was passed and the red flag law as you indicated really violates more of our constitutional rights than just the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. It's dependent upon who sits in that authoritative position. It sounds to me like we have a reasonable portion doing that now at least in Randolph County. I don't know any other entities within the county. I am not sure there is need to get ahead of it on this point. Not saying it won't happen and Virginia was a shock. I think it was crazy what they did in Virginia the state legislator did I think. I don't want to live in Virginia or Illinois for more reasons than the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. So, if you pick where you live to be governed by who by you are governed. If you don't like who is governing you, you try to get them out of there. There might be a time we want to say this. Tom may convince us over the next month that the time is now.

Tom said we will see how many names they get on the petition that is the big thing.

Mike stated right is right and wrong is wrong is my opinion. At this time I think Tom is recommending that we take this under advisement. I request that we revisit this at the first meeting in March.

#### **EDIT MEETING-MAYOR BOB MCCOY**

I am requesting an EDIT Board meeting. To have one scheduled, I recently asked council to approve \$100,000.00 to go into a blight and sidewalk fund. So, I will have matching funds to apply for grants. So, I need to have that to go before the board.

Mike said so we are amending the EDIT plan. Mike said February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Other Business:**

**Regular Claims \$396,620.07**

Gary moves to approve the regular claims for \$396,620.07. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Payroll Claims \$214,094.98**

Gary moves to approve the payroll claims for \$214,094.98 as presented. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Jay -Randolph Developmental Claim \$7500.00**

This is the first half of their \$15,000.00 allocation for the year 2020.

Angela Lowe said they normally pay once a year and now they are going to do bi-annual.

Gary moves to approve the Jay-Randolph Developmental Claim. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Randolph County Economic Dev. Jan Claim \$24,833.33**

Gary moved to approve the claim for \$24, 833.33 as presented. Mike seconded. 2 aye votes, 1 nay vote. Motion carried.

Tom said there are issues out there. I am not satisfied where they are headed. There is problems with Economic Development that I think we need more accountability more direct authority over them than what we have. I was a meeting a month ago and saw some things.

**Cripe Claim 8/2/19 \$1276.55**

**Cripe Claim 9/3/19 \$932.20**

**Cripe Claim 12/31/19 \$222.98**

Tom said I am not in favor of paying them yet. I would like to make a motion that Cripe needs to say we are not going to pay for a claim for \$89,000.00 for a 150 KW generator for the highway garage.

Mike seconded the motion.

Gary said why not get the guys and set down and talk about this. Talk face to face. We have had these claims we are carrying. I agree I am not in favor of paying them until we know where we are at. We are not getting anywhere without setting down and talking with them. They need to come here with a person who can make a decision and tell us how things should be and how they are going to do it. Then we can decide what we are going to do.

Mike said these are really two different issues. We have a motion and a second on the floor regarding not paying for the 150 KW generator.

Gary said how does that work into the bid and what effect it is going to have.

Tom said this is supposedly try to mitigate the \$37,000.00 for restocking fee that we or somebody is going to be charged by Generac. Apparently Evapar paid this restocking fee to Generac, that is being purchased through Carroll Electric. There is an architectural mistake I think this has happen and lack of communication and it didn't get cancelled. So Evapar is out \$37,000 dollars. So, we are hoping if we say we are not paying for it then that will cause Generac to refund Evapar and go forward with the 150KW generator for about \$35,000. Tom said the 300 KW got cancelled. That is what they want us to pay for. So if they have this document it will help their argument to get a refund. Ultimately it is going to save someone a restocking fee of \$37,000.

Gary asked why is that not coming back onto Cripe.

Tom said that is why they requested a letter to give them leverage over them if the county isn't paying then they aren't paying. Then the company will re-negotiate. That was their logic.

Tom said Danny Stamper has got involved and he has done a lot of business with this company with Generac. He said in fact he has spent \$200,000.00 at Silvertown with them. So, he is using that leverage to try to get them to take away the restocking fee. They want communication from us that we are not paying.

Gary asked if it was actually constructed and delivered.

Tom said it was constructed and you have 2 weeks to get a notice. They should have been notified but for some reason they were not notified in time to cancel the order. So, there is a 300 KW natural gas generator supposedly made for our garage that we don't want. So, through these negotiations if it is made clear that Randolph County isn't going to pay for it, it will help the architect get it resolved.

Mike stated we have a motion we are not going to pay the restocking fee of \$37,000 for a 300 KW generator. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said we are going to request Cripe to come the first week in March. We will discuss these issues.

#### **Minutes of October 21, 19 and November 4, 19**

Mike as if there is any addition or deletion or corrections to either sets of these minutes.

Gary moved to approve the October 19, 2019 and November 4, 2019 minutes as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

#### **Comp Time report**

We received a copy via e-mail. Gary said we are up about 1800.

Mike did a calculation and said that 75% of the comp time is the Jail, E-911, and Sheriff. What that is telling me is the policy change a few years ago is helping the other departments somewhat.

### **Board of Finance minutes**

We met January 20 and I wasn't here. I was elected to serve as chairman of the board in my absence.

Tom moves to approve the Board of Finance minutes. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike asked if the treasurer has heard back from the buyer of Mutual Bank.

Debi Preston, Treasurer said not yet it wouldn't be until the end of April.

### **Farm Leases**

Meeks Cockerill said we have 4 farm leases. You have Clark Chamberlain at 31.8 acres and that ends in 2019. He is paying \$237.00 an acre. Union-Go Dairy ends in 2019 for 132.6 acres at \$276.62 an acre. Phil Howell ends in 2020 the pasture lease that is still in effect. Brumfield was for 8 acres \$212.50 an acre and that ended in 2019.

Mike asked if there has been any discussion with any of these.

Meeks said he has not.

Mike ask Tom if he would go talk to these individuals and he agreed.

Meeks said it would be better to get them on a longer lease. The 8 acres is landlocked and in the flight path.

### **Road Easements**

Meeks said it has to do with the solar farm. Whether you want a road use agreement. The company doesn't think you will need a road use agreement. They still want to do Economic Development agreement. The EDA wanted to kind of price it the same as the wind turbines.

Mike Wickersham ask Mike Haffner if they approached him about the solar farm and the use of the roads.

Mike Haffner said it has been mentioned but no contract or anything.

Mike Wickersham said it would be nice to see a transportation plan and that would determine whether or not we need a road use agreement. If the transportation plan involves bridges and roads that we are concerned about. We might want a road use agreement.

Meeks said that would need to be in the ordinance and what are you going to require in the ordinance.

Mike said could we not say that a road use agreement would be a condition upon a transportation plan determined by the county commissioners whether it is required or not.

Gary said we need to do that. This is not going to be rectangle or square. It's going to be panels here and panels there. I think that is what we need to have something.

Meeks will share that with Randy, and I think Randy wants a road use agreement. So, the question is whether you guys want it or not.

Mike thinks that it would be at least appropriate to have the availability to say we need a road use agreement.

### **Cell Towers**

Meeks said Chris Shaneyfelt is here to update you guys, because you still had a lot of questions going on back and forth last week.

Chris informed them why they have chosen to go away from Frank Miller site and going back to the county highway barn. A lot of that had to do with SHIPO, which is a State Historical Preservation Office. The way I understand it, is that SHIPO application related to that property. The tower can't take away from the historical portion of the ground. It would have involved placing balloons where the towers are at and if it was visible from the historical portion of the property and such so we could not place it there. The balloons would be place at the height of the tower about 350 feet or so. That forced us to look at the county highway barn. The problem out there was where we were going to put the tower. So, it doesn't impede the county highway project that is going on out there. We met with Mike Haffner and Tom Chalfant on Thursday and went into the woods and agreed on a location to place a tower just to the west of the top soil mound. We will have to some clearing of the woods there. When we did the BZA approvals we were given approval to go 120 feet to the west of the construction area into the woods. If we went any farther than that we would have to have another BZA hearing to notify the property owners it would be farther to the west. The problem at this point in time is the Country View Farm site. The Country View Farm site is the attorneys for the bank doesn't care for any of the wording that is being used. The right of first refusals.

Meeks said they want to remove all the language even the proposed language that they sent back to us. There would be no language in there.

Terry and I find that unacceptable. So, we need to look for a new location.

Gary said we can purchase it.

Meeks said I don't know if you can purchase it or not you would have to ask Country View Farms. That was not in the discussion.

Mike said if they are not going to allow us to purchase it if they ever sale it, then I would not thing they would allow us to purchase it now.

Gary said that is because of the financial people. That doesn't mean Country View doesn't have the authority to sale the land on their own.

Meeks said unless they are getting a mortgage on all of it.

Mike said they would have to get the financial people to agree to it.

Gary said we need to address this. I talked to Bob Ruth the person over the operations. It was not addressed about purchasing the land but he said that anything they could do, they were willing to work with Randolph County in any way they could to help us.

Mike said I suppose we could offer to buy it.

Gary said he did not address this because he did not have the authority nor did I want to take that authority but I think this would be a possibility and I think that is an ideal location.

Chris said that is the best location for the southern portion of our county and better than Randolph Southern.

Meeks said Terry said both of those sites are pretty much the same.

Chris said my understanding is if they move the tower back to one then it will cause us to move the Lynn tower back east it will cause problems with the Modoc area some. With the tower at the County Highway Garage covers more portions of the Lynn area. The tower at Country View is still the best. It will work at both sites.

Mike asked why the tower at Country View wasn't our first choice.

Chris said because at that point in time it was schools don't go away typically. Private business-like Country View bought from Maxwell Farms and if we don't have the agreements in place.

Mike said if we can't get Country View is the School still a viable site.

Chris said if we can get the school to agree to it.

Mike said I think the school had some questions that were not answered.

Chris said we answered what questions they asked. From the get go they were not very receptive of it. We provided them with as much information as we could. They just choose not to go along with that agreement. I have heard there has been some rumors of maybe reconsidering, considering what is going on with Country View.

Mike said even if they do reconsider and granted it, if it's not the best spot we don't want that.

Chris to me it's not the best spot.



Tom said there should be other sites by Country View that we could surely put one on.

Chris said we are trying to do this without buying property.

Gary said if we are trying to get the best we can do. Spending another 15, 18, 25 thousand whatever it's going to cost us to buy that plat out of 4 million dollars. We can get what we want and what we think we need to have that shouldn't be an issue.

Mike said I don't disagree with that either. We haven't asked so we need to ask if the bank is holding us up because they don't want to give first right of refusal. Then the bank has some interest in that property.

Gary said I'm not saying they don't. I can see first right of refusal could be more of a problem than selling it.

Mike said we will find that out. Who wants to take that offer?

Meeks said if they would sale we would need to get a survey and appraisal.

Gary said let's talk to them and see if they are interested.

Meeks said we need a motion for Chris saying if we can buy an acre or whatever we need and not necessarily from Country View either because talking to Terri we are on a time frame.

Gary said he will talk to Country View first.

Tom said he talked to Mr. Norwood and he thought if we carve out 100 sq. foot in the woods. I tried to talk to Martha but haven't heard back. So, I don't know if she is ok with that or not. Tom said if you are wanting to move ahead today it will probably be at the highway garage.

Mike said Gary will reach out to Frank Miller and see if that creates any opportunities in the woods.

Gary said he will try and make contact in the next 2 or 3 days.

Mike makes a motion to allow Chris to go head and that we are willing to buy in the southern part of the county. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

#### **Redevelopment Commission Appointment**

Steve Croyle has resigned. There are no replacements. Tabled

#### **Building Corporation Appointment**

Barbara Geyer passed away. There are no replacements. Tabled

#### **Library Board Appointment**

Mike said Washington Township Library recommending that Heidi Gullett be appointed. She is replacing Marcia Nicholson who served her 3 terms. This would be for a 4-year appointment beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion to approve Heidi Gullett to the Washington Township Library Board. Gary so moved. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Meeks Cockerill Conflict of Interest**

Mike would entertain a motion to approve and execute Meeks Cockerill uniform Conflict of Interest statement. Gary so moved. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Headwaters II – Letter of Credit**

Meeks Cockerill thought everything look fine. A motion to accept the EDRP letter of credit as submitted. Gary so moved. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Electronic Map Data Application Agreement**

Mike said this is for Tom Schroader and Vernagy LLC.

Gary said he is out of Chicago, we had a conference call with him last week. He and his company's rep's working on the solar ordinance. He asked for that.

Mike asked then we are not waving the fee. It hasn't been requested.

Tom asked if we hired him or are we paying.

Gary so no he is working for the solar company.

Mike entertained a motion to approve the Electronic Map Data Application Agreement. The applicate has agreed to pay our \$1200 fee. Gary so moved. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **2020 Initial Boundary Validation**

Mike said the United States Department of Commerce 2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program (BVP). We are certifying that the legal boundaries for our government is correct. Fred Hoffman has looked at our paper work and has determined that it is correct. I am willing to take Fred's word that it is correct. Mike entertain a motion for himself to sign on behalf of the county. Tom so moved. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion approved.

### **Elected official Bond approvals**

Laura Martin said last meeting Tom and Gary approved Art's bond. Jane Grove informed Laura that Art's bond needs all three signatures before being recorded. I am asking to reapprove Art's to get it right. I also have Tim Crawford which is our coroner. Mike entertains a motion to approve Art Moystner bond as well as Tim Crawford. Tom so moved. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Unchained Praises**



from Baker Tilly said we do need to process this. These fees are the same as 2018. Jason said this for the county to accept their fee for acting as registrar and paying agent on the bonds.

Meeks said I am sure that Jason already had the fees factored in. The closing is at 11:00 tomorrow which is when the bids are supposed to be in. Laura and Meeks will be on a conference call at 11:30 am to see how it goes.

Mike would entertain a motion to accept this fee agreement for special purposes on income taxes limited bonds Series 2020. Gary so moved and allows Mike Wickersham to sign on behalf of the county. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried. Motion to approve Mike to sign. Gary so moved. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Art needs a signature on the titles for the 3 vehicles that were totaled in Lynn.

Gary asked how we came out on this.

Art said by the time the insurance finished for the vehicles themselves. We are going to get a check that is closed to \$60,000. We are buying 3 for a total of \$96,000. We will have that remainder to do. The equipment is getting transfer over into the new cars. We have what we needed ordered.

Angela and myself have been talking about is Digital Allied is coming to replace 3 in-car cameras we have. It's a little more technology than we have. We have 9 other vehicles that I would like to get in-car cameras in at whatever rate we can do that. It will tie into the body cam as well as it comes on when they turn their lights on. The units are \$4000-\$4500 a piece so we are looking at around \$45,000. Once I get a locked in figure I will come to you guys and maybe we can figure out how we can do that. I know that we normally use the computer/video equipment line but we used it for a server this year.

### **Gary Girton**

Gary asked that we suggest asking Danny Stamper the project manager to come to our next meeting and update us on the completion of the highway facility.

Mike asked if you want them here the same time as Cripe is coming.

Gary said might as well since they are working together.

### **Mike Wickersham**

The commissioners all received an e-mail from Laura about our obsolete phone hardware. That is still working. The sheriff and the E-911 is interested in new phone system. Mike thinks our current provider wants to come in and talk to us about a new system.

Laura said the Sheriff wants us to go with Frontier because of the E-911. Taylor System is who the courthouse has. Taylored Systems wants to come in and talk with us.

Mike said we need to start talking about a plan.

Laura has quotes from Frontier, Taylored and one other.

Mike said it is whether we want to go with Frontier at the courthouse in line with the jail, sheriff department and 911.

Art said we don't have Frontier currently and one of the issues is we have a lot of problems with one line that we have static on. So, when someone calls it's a he said/he said game.

Mike said get new quotes and we will review them.

Laura said I really don't have preference. We don't really have any problems with our phone system. It is obsolete so we will have to do something at some point.

Tom asked the issue with the prosecutor's office has been fixed.

Laura said with any caller ID you will have calls that come up unknown. Whether you answer them or not is up to you.

Mike said just block it. Mike asked again do we want to talk to Taylored Systems.

Gary said we might as well, get as much knowledge as possible as to what is available.

Laura said my understanding is they want to come and go over the quote. Talk about the phones being obsolete.

Mike said he received a letter from Greg Hahn who is an attorney and grew up in Randolph County. He has an associate Jim Hamilton. He is in the business of trying to get a state-wide county trust fund for health insurance coverage. Jim Hamilton would like to set up a phone call with someone from our county to discuss what he is trying to do and how it can save the county money on health insurance. I can talk to him. I told him I think we would be interested in learning more. Health insurance is one of our personal service budgets.

Tom stated that Henry County says they have saved a lot being in a co-op.

Mike thinks this might be our answer. My other question is if I do talk to him and it sounds like something feasible. I'm not on the insurance committee but I thought I could bring in somebody from Council and try to set up a meeting.

Gary suggestion would be for you to follow up with your comments that you discuss with him. If you think it is potential do a conference call or bring it in for the whole insurance committee.

Mike said we are becoming popular with folks out there. I have been approached by HoosiersforRenewables.com about us and Steve Eberly, commissioner from Warren County.

He is part of Hoosiers for Renewables and he would like to come in and do some interviews and films. Discussing the economic support and specific projects and programs that have been funded that otherwise would not have been because of our renewable energy projects in the county. Mike said my first instance was to give his contact information to the Economic Development Director Ceann Bales. Let her office hopefully coordinate those things that he wants to get into. So before I did that I wanted to run it by the commissioners to see if they had an interest in participating. They are looking at educational things, fire safety enhancements and other things of that nature. Mike said I thought the first stop should be the Economic Development office.

### **Citizen Comments**

Dan Burford, rural Parker City. Amendment rights. The 1000 signatures that he was able to obtain in a couple weeks. The page that people are following for Randolph County have even more people than that. Which is attached to the state page which as of this morning in about a couple weeks have gained 38,000 followers. So when you go to a more regional area and national area, hundreds of thousands of people who are following to see what different communities, states and counties are doing as far as supporting peoples 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights. I understand 100% what you are saying about passing ordinances and things that carry no weight. I defiantly appreciate what Art said and you about protecting our rights that is huge. Something to consider is there is potentially hundreds of thousands of people that are watching these things. Randolph County, Indiana is making a statement. That we are here to protect our constitutional rights of our people. I know that it doesn't carry any weight. As divisive as this has gotten. If you are looking to relocate your family these are things they are looking at. I want you to consider this when you are looking at things. State wide in a couple of weeks got 38,000 people watching what is going on across Indiana. Over 3000 in Delaware County alone. I came to Muncie to work. That is not an environment for me. If I am looking to relocate my family that is something I am going to look at. When you look at the counties that have taken action it is a very small pool. If it's something that is important to you, that you are concerned about your constitutional rights. At least your local officials are speaking up and saying hey we don't have a lot of teeth. We want our people of our community to know that we support this. We support your rights. We are willing to put that out there. It's a declaration or statement. Those little things can carry a lot of weight for our county and community. So, as you move forward, I really encourage you to see how some of this is growing. I agree you can't trump the constitution or the state.

Mike said those web pages will have effect on our state legislation.

Dan said I have been in emergency services in Delaware County for 29 years. I was a reserve officer in Parker City for a while. We are much safer people when our rights are protected.

Todd Longfellow said two of my neighbors and myself have been contacted by an engineering firm looking for space to put in a cell tower. It would be a 250 tower. I don't know what the neighbors are going to do. I don't qualify for the 5 acres. Someone is looking to put towers through there. Just wanted to let you know that.

Todd said on the second amendment I agree with what Dakota was saying. On the symbolic part. Signing that thing is like when people go into a courthouse when they have a big rally of people. This is a signature page doing the same thing as people going down to Indianapolis in groups of 100's and supporting an issue.

Mike said we sign symbolic things a lot but we don't do preemptive symbolic things.

Todd said you can't compare this sanctuary to the sanctuary for illegals is not the same thing. There is nothing in the constitution protecting illegals like that.

Mike says if we had the request to pass a symbolic measure that says Randolph County supports the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. I probably would not have a problem signing that. Because I do support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment as well as every other amendment in the constitution. It wasn't presented that way.

**Adjournment**

Mike would entertain a motion to adjourn. Tom so moved. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and signed this 6 day of April, 2020.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County