

## Randolph County Commissioners

April 5, 2021

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

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Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Chris Shaneyfelt – Rex Collins Electric & Cobalt change orders, Action Item 2021-1

Chris said these are the change orders related to the broadband towers that were part of the project.

Mike said these are all reductions?

Chris said yes to my knowledge.

Gary said I thought Rex Collins bid after the broadband was taken off.

Mike said this is for the generator.

Gary said we used the generator from the highway, okay.

Mike said they have an attachment explaining that.

Gary made a motion to approve the change orders for Rex Collins Electric and Cobalt Civil as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said do you want to share with us the GIS action item.

Chris said the 911 center and some of the county agencies use Spillman for their emergency services work. It is a cad and records management system. It was acquired by Motorola from Spillman in the last couple of years and Motorola has been making upgrades to the system as they move forward. Part of their upgrades is requiring promotions or models now to have GIS software, it is their in-house GIS software. To operate our basic cad call module, the telecom module that we have purchased and the response module. They are requiring that we have the GIS module as well. The cost of that GIS module exceeds what is in my budgets, the cost of it is \$20,557.16.

Tom asked is there an annual fee besides this?

Chris said there will be an annual maintenance fee, yes.

Tom asked did they tell you what that is?

Chris said usually, with most of our modules, its running between \$1000.00 and \$2000.00. I would have to increase my maintenance line a little.

Mike said does this go on as a layer on our GIS system?

Chris said it would take information from our GIS, the tif files and then we would upload it into that system, so it would be separate from the Counties system.

Mike said do you still have to maintain the counties system beyond that?

Chris said I think I would.

Mike said it does not replace it, it just adds to it?

Chris said yes, it just adds to it. It makes this Spillman cad system function better, it confirms the actual GIS addresses. It is more next gen 911 compliant.

Mike said this was not anticipated in the communications project as an expense?

Chris said no.

Mike said is there any money left in there to use to pay for this expense?

Chris said the money could come from the towers that you just got reimbursed for.

Mike said those weren't coming out of the bond. So, you need this then?

Chris said yes because we have modules that we've purchased and I can't run because it requires this. The last module I bought, they didn't tell me I had to have it before I bought it.

Mike said I would say at this point in time, since you need it and you don't have the money to pay for it, we pay for it out of Cum Cap. I will make that motion.

Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Chris said you should have received some communication from New Lisbon and what is going on with that is, because of the 4.9 gigahertz issue we've go going on with the microwaves. Pyramid is speaking with broadband providers and primarily it is Comcast at the moment, but then they reached out to New Lisbon to get a second quote so that you could compare apples to apples. What I have been asked to relay is, there was apparently two different options for

payment regarding the broadband from New Lisbon and one of those is over 120 months versus a one lump sum payment. Pyramid asked that you consider a one lump sum payment so you actually getting the best comparison.

Mike said I am not looking at them yet because I am still counting on the microwave license after, I don't know about anybody else but I have written both Senator's, I've written our representative and I have written our state senator and they have all indicated that they have helped and they are waiting to hear what the FCC response is. I can't imagine why the FCC would refuse a microwave license for an emergency system in rural Indiana.

Chris said it is Federal government.

Mike said I just can't imagine that. It was nice to get the explanation, I didn't know why it was coming when I got the email and the sum was large.

Chris said I hadn't seen that part yet, they didn't forward it to me.

Tom said it was half a million.

### **JJ Hall – UTV Permits**

Mike said you came in about a month ago and you wanted to know about getting a county authorization to ride your UTV's on county roads and such as that nature.

JJ said yes.

Mike said are you required to register your UTV with the state of Indiana?

JJ said yes.

Mike said doesn't that allow you to ride it on right of ways?

JJ said no.

Mike said it doesn't?

JJ said on Indiana highways yes, but not the county roads. I have a map here of all the counties that allow on the DNR.

Mike said I've got that. My concern is the registration and the expense the county would go into to register that.

JJ said the state registers it, as far as your state registration.

Mike said we just have to say you can do it on a county road?

JJ said yes, or you have to have your requirement, like I showed you that Union City has.

Mike said the BMV requires that anyway don't they, if you register it with the state.

JJ said yes. It is just stating it is illegal to ride it on the road in this county.

Mike said unless we make it legal?

JJ said yes.

Mike asked Tom and Gary, what do you guys think about that?

Tom said all ATV's are not registered with the state, are they?

JJ said no, you do not have to, if you want to be on public ground, yes.

Mike said state right of way?

JJ said yes, state right of way. But as far as being registered, no. In order to have that it would have to be registered of course.

Mike said we would have to register it.

JJ said no, that would still be with the state, wouldn't it?

Mike said we would have to require them to have it. Then that becomes an enforcement issue and I don't know if the Sheriff has an opinion about this or not.

Art said I haven't contacted any of the other surrounding counties, if the Commissioner's are wanting to move forward. About 2/3's of the counties in the state of Indiana have done this. I know the counties around us in Indiana have done it. I haven't gotten an ordinance from the as to what they do specifically to make that happen. I can reach out to them if that is something the Commissioner's want me to do. I can try to get copies of surrounding ordinances and get those for you.

Mike said my list must be old because I am only counting 30.

Art said I didn't count the specifically.

Mike said Jay County doesn't, do they?

JJ said yes, they do.

Mike said then my list is old.

JJ said here is the current list if you want to see it, we are the only one in district 4 that it is not legal. Jay County, I talked to a gentleman yesterday and there is as near as Union City's. There is your insurance of course and being registered and turn signals.

Mike said who issues that permit in Jay County?

JJ said she went through the BMV and she sends it every three years.

Mike said do we want to have the Sheriff pursue information on it?

Gary said, I guess, I am concerned with the monitoring of it. I am not so much concerned about the other. How many deputies do you have on the county roads during the day, three?

Art said three at most. We have twelve road deputies, and two or three are scheduled.

JJ said right now you can go on about any county road and they are already riding them.

Gary said I know that and a number of them are unsafe, I followed one the other day on Highway 36 and I was going 55 mph and he was ahead of me. I know that was an exception, you are not allowed on the state highways.

JJ said just on the county roads.

Mike said you being stopped JJ was the exception to the normal.

JJ said but the DNR informed me that I have never had any trouble before. So, I thought well, I will see what we can do to solve this.

Mike said one thing if we did this and we did it with very little upfront expense, then we would put the burden on the Sheriff's Department to enforce it, if they so chose to do that. But at least we would have some mechanism in the case that you had a real violator out there, you could enforce something against them. I don't see any harm in having the Sheriff pursue it with the surrounding counties to see how they do it and if we could have a process and a mechanism. I don't have a problem with it. There again I seen two golf carts going down my road yesterday and they weren't licensed and one of them had seven people in it. That is kind of frightening.

Art said I will look into it and forward any copies of ordinances that I get to the Commissioner's.

**Greg Beumer, L&M Water District grant administrator**

Greg said I am here on behalf of the L & M Regional Water District, L & M standing for Losantville and Modoc. The utility has been in operation for just a little over 40 years, they are debt free, they think now would be a good opportunity and a good time to pursue a project that improves the water utility. I am here to ask if the county would facilitate a grant application to OCRA, the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. OCRA only allows incorporated cities, towns and counties to apply for that money. The County can use one of its three slots to facilitate this application. I can give you a lot of information but basically, this proposal is due on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April. A full application due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June and I would just ask that the Commissioner's consider facilitating this application and if so authorizing the Commissioner president to sign any documents needed to submit the proposal on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April.

Gary said what all is their intent?

Greg said they will install 4,800 linear feet of new six-inch water main that helps improve pressure and water quality on dead end lines, so you are going to loop the lines and provide better fire protection, they are going to install all new water meters using the new digital and blue tooth technology and replace 16 fire hydrants and 11 water valves and that is basically the project.

Mike said I think right now we have Jay-Randolph as one of our committed OCRA grants, I don't think the latest ones for Economic Development or the Child Care goes toward one of those three.

Greg said they do not count against your three slots.

Mike said as far as I know we just have Jay-Randolph and it is probably going to go off rather soon. I think we have room for this if we want to pursue it.

Tom said I think it is worth doing.

Gary said I do too. I will make a motion to approve facilitating an OCRA grant for L & M Water District and allow Mike Wickersham to sign the documents needed to apply for this grant. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Greg said the public hearings will be held at the Regional Water District office in Losantville, so again we won't be back here but I will work with Mike to get this taken care of.

#### **Diane and Duane – Ambulance purchase**

Duane said I called our salesman to see what our price was going to be and he told me that the AEV changed their territories and he doesn't cover Indiana anymore. I contacted American Response Vehicles in Missouri and talked to him. The last bid price we did was \$192,624.00. American Response looked over those specs and he ball parked it at \$192,247.00, which is about \$377.00 cheaper.

Mike said this would replace a vehicle that is how old?

Duane said it is a 2007.

Gary said is that the one you been having issues with?

Duane said no.

Mike said that's a 2016. Are you talking about the engine replacement?

Duane said that is a 2016. It is supposed to be done this week.

Mike said we seriously considered this a year ago. We determined we needed it then. I suppose your situation hasn't changed?

Duane said no, other than all of them have more mileage on them now.

Mike said if we choose to go ahead with this we need to determine how we are going to pay for it or just leave it to Council's decision on how to pay for it. I am not sure other than Cum Cap, EDIT or Windfarm. I don't think Council will want to use Rainy day, which they shouldn't. Do you want to recommend to Council that we need a new ambulance?

Gary made a motion to recommend to Council that we purchase a new ambulance. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I am not sure if Covid relief funds would pay for that or not, we can wait and see.

Gary said I have a question on your paramedics, I got your email a while back. What kind of plans can we do to alleviate and remedy part of that problem?

Duane said I don't know, we have been discussing it for a couple years now on ways to fix it. We had a meeting at Reid Hospital and they were talking about starting a paramedic program down there with support from surrounding counties.

Diane said that was about three years ago and it hasn't gotten off the ground yet.

Duane said I was going to call back down there and see where they are at with it or what's going on with it but I haven't had a chance to do that yet.

Gary said where do your people go to for training now?

Duane said for paramedic classes, Ft Wayne, Kokomo or Indianapolis. Or Dayton.

Diane said Kokomo is getting ready to finish up a class, but I don't know that they will graduate eight of them out of there. They all have full time jobs.

Gary said if we can stimulate Reid to start something, what would you do, suggest that some your EMT's go through that program to become paramedics?

Duane said yes.

Mike said what is the pay bump between and EMT and paramedic?

Diane said \$16.32 for a paramedic and the basic is \$15.00 something but I don't know without it being in front of me.

Mike said that is an issue there.

Duane said our last paramedic that quit went to Muncie and I think they are paying over \$20.00 per hour.

Mike said it might not be a good time but you might share that information with Council tomorrow as well.

Gary said I would think that would be something that needs to be addressed.

Mike said unless we do, it is not going to get any better. If we buy a new ambulance, do we have a driver for it?

Duane said yes, drivers are not a problem.

Diane said there is really not a shortage on basic EMT's, it is just that paramedic level. It is state wide.

Gary said I have been in a couple of meetings over the last two or three years at Indianapolis and that is an issue that people have brought up. We need to address it somehow, whether we can subsidize their training or whatever would be a possibility, we need to address these issues. I don't have any contacts at Reid but maybe we could find some and see if we could encourage them to reach out to the counties. Were they going to just address the four counties around or what?

Duane said they invited all the surrounding counties to the meeting when they were discussing it to see if they were going to get support. Of course, everybody was in.

Gary said I would think so, we can't operate without.

Mike said is the class location the problem or is it the pay differential to entice someone to go to the class.

Gary said I would think both of them would be.

Duane said both.

Mike said I would think if you had classes in Kokomo, you could send somebody there and cover their expenses while their gone and then give them enough of a bump after they've graduated so that they want to come back.

### **Dean Sanders, Journey Home – Changes to facility**

Dean said the Journey Home wants to make a couple changes to the facility, obviously being a county facility, we need to get your approval for that. Two projects we have in mind, the first one is to add about and 8 x 8 office right there by our reception area. It is currently what we call the fish bowl area there. We would like to add an 8 x 8 office there and what that would serve as, is a telehealth room. For any veteran either at the facility or our outreach program or any veteran throughout the region that would like to use that facility. The other one is that we have



five area's where the veterans live in the facility. The cabinetry in that area is getting extremely old. It is getting old and worn out, broken down a little bit in certain areas. What we would like to do is replace the cabinetry in each of those five rooms with cabinetry that can be reused as seconds, they would not be brand new. That would be the other project. So, replacing five rooms where the veteran residents live, replacing the cabinetry in each one of those rooms and then also build an 8 x 8 office right there by our front fish bowl area. Right now, those projects we are seeking funding for, we don't have funds for them at this time but in the event that we should get that we would like to be able to have the approval to proceed with that and obviously if we did get the funding, we would come back and let you know that those projects are now valid projects. We would like to move forward on those.

Mike said is the telehealth something that could be done at the Veteran's Office.

Dean said I suppose it could, I don't think that would probably be a problem. The only thing that we were thinking is that with the hours of the Journey Home being 24-hours a day and the other thing too is that we have staffing there that if there were to be veterans that have an issue being able to access it or something like that, we would have staffing there available to do that.

Mike said that makes sense, but otherwise I think they could go to the Veteran's Office and have that opportunity.

Dean said I think we have had some issues with some of them being able to access internet service and stuff like that so, we thought having a general location there would be beneficial to come in and get access if they can't in their own home area. Of course, the other thing is to that we have staff that is very familiar with that. Our understanding is that the VA is moving very swiftly as much as they can to doing more telehealth. That would also serve as a tele treatment room also for treatment programs and stuff like that.

Mike said I don't have a problem with the changes, I would ask you to coordinate your contractor or the changes I would coordinate those with Jake Donham, our facilities manager, so he knows what you are doing and what the process is. If you don't mind, I would say he can kind of keep an eye on it for us.

Dean said we will be using a local contractor, it will be professionally done.

Gary made a motion for the Journey Home to move forward with the changes above and to coordinate them with Jake Donham. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said the other question about your fire pit situation. I don't know if Jake had talked to you about that but he sent us an email kind of confirming that he had.

Dean said he did not speak with me, he might have spoke with Eldon or Teresa or somebody else and I might not be familiar with that conversation. I can take back any information on this.

Mike said the fire pit on occasion during the day has created some smoke issues in the building with some of the other tenants, I think the conclusion was that the fire pit could be used after 5:00 pm when the other offices are closed or on weekends.

Tom said also not to burn trash.

Dean said okay, I will take that back to them. Is there somebody we need to get back with?

Mike said Jake. I think they have already gotten back with Jake but if you could just confirm that.

**Perry Knox, Rouzbeh (Ruzy) Khajehdehi & Robin Warner, SJCA – Task Order No. 8, Bridges 162, 174 and 175**

Perry said I would like to introduce to you Robin Warner, he is our director of construction at SJCA, had probably done more bridge inspection and construction projects on bridges, 2,300 plus over his 30 plus years career. This is Ruzy, Ruzy has a PHD and we call him Dr. Concrete. He has definitely solved a lot of concrete issues and things with some of the structures. I brought them here today to answer any questions you have on the proposal that we introduced on three large bridges in Windsor for rehabilitation.

Ruzy said we have taken all of these photos, we are highly active in Randolph County. As a matter of fact the second page of the first bridge Robin was there a few days ago and did what we call deck sounding on these bridges to verify what was in the inspection reports, which is basically the varying surfaces have a rating of four, meaning they have some advanced deterioration going on and need immediate attention. The bridges have other specific issues, like the ones you see in the picture with the open joints, leaking water and causing damage on the bridge elements and we have studied these, spent time, and we came up with our recommendations on these three bridges. Basically, we recommend doing a concrete overlay on these bridges. We believe that the other elements of the bridges are in decent shape and doing this concrete overlay can extend the life of the bridge 20 to 25 years. Really the goal is to conduct this required maintenance on these bridges and don't have problems like you have on bridge 304, so you have to close down the bridge before you know it. I think that could cause a lot more money for the county. Just taking care of this requirement and using the available federal funds to take care of these bridges.

Mike said you make it sound awful simple with concrete overlay. I have to think there is a lot more involved than a concrete overlay because I am just looking at bridge 162, it looks like a total construction expense of \$364,000.00.

Ruzy said obviously not all of the cost, that overlay and the varying surface issue is a standing problem. We are not only dealing with this problem, for example we have issues with pier caps, the piles are corroding, we have undermining on some of the approaches. We have been on these bridges twice and have looked at the bridge and this includes many other repairs. The thing about these overlays, we are not just going to slab the concrete or asphalt and make the surface look nice. Robin has changed it and the concrete deterioration starts from within and you have to understand that there are hollow spots underneath the surface. What they usually do is

they use something called hydro demolition, hydro demolition is high pressure water jet gaged to remove any bad concrete under the surface. That is really the key here to conduct this hydro demolition to be able to find really what is going on underneath. The surface may look nice if there is something going on underneath it is going to fall in a few years but the hydro demolition will find those bad spots and take the bad concrete out and the overlay will fill in those bad spots and basically make the deck like new.

Mike said if we were to do this project, we'd be looking at community crossings money. Is that what we are thinking Mike?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said in order to apply for that Community Crossings money we would have to have a project plan in place, ready to bid to a contractor upon receipt of the Community Crossing. Is that the way it works?

Perry said yes.

Mike said construction cost, your estimate at this time is about \$1,019,000.00 for all three bridges and these are long bridges by the way.

Mike Haffner said one of the longest you have in the county.

Mike said in order to have the plans in place to apply for Community Crossings when?

Mike Haffner said we are looking at the fall of 2022.

Mike said we need to have the plans in place by when?

Perry said you would have to have your plans and permitting be shovel ready by the time you submit your application. Anticipated to be July of 2022.

Mike said and all that is going to take a little over a year to get done?

Perry said yes because of the permits, we need permits on that bridge.

Mike said that is why we are considering task order number 8, to pay SJCA \$215,170.00 for engineering fees for these three bridges, concrete overhaul and other things that go with it. If successful then, we are out of pocket the \$215,000.00 and our percentage of the Community Crossings.

Perry said correct, if construction cost estimates fall into place, I think I had a per bridge estimate out of pocket for the county of \$159,600.00.

Mike asked Mike Haffner, do you have the money to pay these engineering fees?

Mike Haffner said we do not have \$200,000.00 in Cum Bridge.

Mike asked how much do you have in your Cum Bridge that you can spend on this project.

Mike Haffner said we've got some money that we had aside for bridge 32 and 85. Now that Federal Aid, I'm not sure when that's starting the payments will start rolling in there. I probably could divert \$50,000.00 right away to start this project but we probably will not have enough in the future to accommodate the full. I am looking at the bulk of it having to be paid from somewhere different other than Cum Bridge.

Mike said the federal aid on 85 and 32, we need to request proposals from engineering firms on those?

Perry said yes, I have delivered the RFP materials to Jessica. She has to submit them to INDOT. We will be anticipating once you make your selection of your firm, you should be anticipating the first billings fourth quarter this year if everything goes okay.

Gary said up front we need your \$200 and some thousand fees and then in the fourth quarter we are going to start needing additional funds to match 32 and 85.

Perry said that could go into first quarter of 2023 as well, depends on how quickly they go through the process.

Gary said I am not in favor right now with all our other bridges and so on of taking more money. I think that now is the time, I have always been pretty tight fisted with windfarm funds. I think now is the time to utilize some of that.

Mike said I would agree that these projects, its an opportunity to spend money, to eventually save money. If it's going to last 20 to 25 years. You're the concrete doctor and I guess I thought they were going to last longer than 25-years but I didn't hear that from the concrete doctor, I heard 20 to 25 years from the concrete doctor.

Ruzy said one more number to consider is that in order to replace these, you are looking at \$1.5 to \$2 million per bridge and you paying 10% to the engineer per bridge. It is maintenance, if you don't do it, it is going to cost more.

Gary said it is not going to get any better, so I think we need to move forward and I will make that a motion and recommend to the Council that we use windfarm funds to pay the engineering costs of \$215,170.00. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Perry said why they are here they both have been on 304, do you have any questions about 304 why they are here?

Mike said I don't today.

Tom said do you see much difference using salt on the roads, with liquid salt or calcium chloride or just road salt? Is there one better than the other?

Ruzy said among the salts, the calcium is the better than the others. Magnesium chloride, no good. Calcium chloride has been better.

Perry said Ruzy do you have any comments on asphalt patching on concrete?

Ruzy said the asphalt patching never do it, if you do nothing it is better than putting asphalt patching on bridges.

Robin said there are materials out there that are concrete products, that will interact with your existing bridge much better. One of the brand names is Sept 45. There are several like products, you would actually chip out the hole in the bridge and put this product in it and in about an hour you are able to drive on it.

Mike said is it more difficult to apply than asphalt?

Robin said yes.

Perry said part of the reason we have such a large percentage of patching on these bridges, is because two of them have several asphalt patches with asphalt overlays which rots the concrete.

Mike Haffner said last year we started using more of a specialty bag mix, more for concrete deck overlays and we basically banned the asphalt patching.

Tom said would that hold true to say if you put base asphalt on a concrete floor, like a salt barn. I heard that instead of using concrete for a salt storage, they are using asphalt. Could you put a couple three inches on top of concrete, would that extend the life any?

Robin said the problem with asphalt on top of concrete is that it traps moisture and allows moisture to get in between the asphalt and concrete and it can't escape and that rots the concrete away at a very fast rate compared to normal wear and tear.

Ruzy said the issue is that what they call the concept of permeability, the asphalt is a lot more permeable than concrete, so it really acts as a pocket for collecting all the salt and water and it's not doing anything to protect it.

Mike asked do we need to sign this today, we should probably wait until Council approves the funding.

Perry said whenever you give us a notice to proceed, however you want to handle it administratively is up to you.

Mike said we probably ought to wait and see what Council has to say and if they approve it then we can sign it.

**Mike Haffner – Purchase mower, Frontier Utility Agreements**

Mike asked Mike Haffner do you recommend the Frontier utility agreements.

Mike Haffner said we have two Frontier utility agreements, both in Farmland area.

Tom made a motion to approve the two Frontier utility agreements as recommended by Mike Haffner. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner said basically I have a picture, it's a 3-point hitch mower is what we are looking at. We have already got a tractor that would serve the purpose and meet the requirements. We need a little help, when we chip and seal, our roads on the edges, there's getting to be a lot more area's that the farmers and land owners aren't taking care of. When that overgrowth happens, I can't spray the road edges like we want. The biggest part of it is okay but there's several miles that's not taken care of and is giving us fits.

Mike said we don't have one of these?

Mike Haffner said no, we have never had one. We don't want to really get in the business of mowing side ditches like other counties but I am looking to just mow a couple of foot along the edge so I can get my distributor down some of these roads that are not being taken care of.

Mike said this is going to mow five feet.

Mike Haffner said it can mow five feet, yes. I have got a quote from Cole Brothers, they've actually got one sitting on their lot or did have a few weeks ago for \$11,200.00. I've got another one at All Four Equipment in Berne, same exact thing \$11,700.00, they do not have one sitting on the lot. I have no idea on delivery nowadays, when they can get it.

Mike asked do you got the money?

Mike Haffner said I've got the money.

Mike said if he is recommending buying this and he has the money, I don't really want to tell him he can't.

Tom made a motion to approve purchasing a 3-point mower. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said anything else Mike?

Mike Haffner said we've got a hole in the Short Street bridge, a very small one but on the south side instead of the north side. We've got a barrel over it right now but we'll have to chisel that out and try to put a steel plate or something similar. That is another bridge that is on our radar.

Gary said on the solar farm roads, I have had some complaints. Are they doing all the maintenance, are you doing the maintenance and they pay you or what?

Mike Haffner said Scott Fisher is taking care of it. I am not doing any of it. No. I told Scott if he can't get it done and they run out of resources, let me know and then we will tackle it the best we can.

Mike said they shouldn't run out of resources.

Gary said there are two or three places, maybe more than that, it looks to me like they ought to put up signs when you enter rough roads because, I drove another one Saturday and when I came up over the hill, it was decent pavement and then I hit this big hole, this isn't good on my car.

Mike Haffner said we have had a discussion on signage because they were asking me how we do it. We are dealing with two different contractors on the windfarm versus there. They were a little bit of awe on how to do the signage. I told them if they needed signage right away, I would provide temporary signage until they could get their own signage.

Gary said somebody needs to decide on something.

Mike Haffner said signage has to be done asap.

Gary said I am giving you a heads up that this is a bad place.

Mike said that stretch on 600 South between 200 and 300, they had it closed last week. Has it opened yet?

Gary said yes.

Mike asked have they repaired that area?

Gary said descent.

Mike said and now 600 South from 300 West over to Indiana Trail is just about as bad.

Gary said they have it dug out and they've got stone in there, but it still needs signage up there to give people a heads up.

Mike said it has to be more than road construction, it has to be signage of danger ahead or something.

### **Chad Spence – Vision Corner**

Mike said I think this is your first visit here but the Mayor of Winchester comes every meeting and does not need to call ahead to have time on the agenda, I will call on him in a few minutes and you are welcome to do that anytime you like.

Chad said I certainly appreciate the opportunity here. I want to thank you, although I am always welcome here I certainly appreciate you guys taking the opportunity to hear us out these next few minutes and it goes without saying thank you for everything you guys do. Because walking the path that we do, we understand what it means to serve others. We also had Bill Corbin put together a short summary of Vision Corner and you are going to get to know what Vision Corner is. Bill is a Union City alumnus and also has a Harvard MBA and he's currently doing some of the Communications in a liaison capacity for us. We are going to take a look at this video and then we will certainly entertain questions.

Video played.

Chad said what questions do you gentlemen have based on what you just observed?

Gary said I like the process, I've been following it since you first brought up the idea. I know it has taken a fair amount of thought initially and then a lot more since you first came up with the idea. I've not seen, I don't know how new this presentation is but I've not heard all these other details that you've put together about the plan itself. I am definitely in favor of doing whatever the county can to help move this forward. I think it is something that we've got to have if the county is going to stay in existence other than just being here, we've got to be here, we've got to be moving forward and we've got to be helping the different area's move forward. I think that we are not getting a few funds available that I think that needs to be earmarked for these kinds of projects.

Chad said I appreciate that tremendously, I really appreciate you sharing that. We are really blessed beyond measure because a lot of this project started some time ago when I sit down with the dean of college and communications at Ball State University and she said we are working feverishly with our students, they want their kids out in the communities. We want our kids to be able to rub elbows with as many folks as possible to help strengthen their foundation when they leave here because we want them coming back here and producing and succeeding at very high levels. That is really what started us down the path of this initiative and this gentlemen to my right has been phenomenal to work with and this really presents itself as one of the most unique opportunities in the state in terms of a cooperative between the city and the school and hopefully the county. With all of us working together to push forward what we are trying to achieve.

Mike said to confirm what I heard, the first floor of the vision that has already started, would be to move Kiss Tv and Decca into the first floor as well as a Ball State mentorship program. Is that where the entrepreneurship ties in?

Chad said yes, unfortunately the size of the architecture layout wouldn't show you the details but we actually have space set aside for, incubator space, for an entrepreneurship program.

Mike said it would be nice to see that floor plan in a hard copy.

Chad said we will absolutely do that.



Mike said is that about a \$500,000.00 commitment to do that first floor?

Chad said plus. The \$500,000.00 is absolutely going to nail the vision, the studio portion of it. But to build up the space to cover the first floor it is going to be close to \$1 million.

Mike said the million dollars was the first floor?

Chad said it would be close to it, we don't have the exact specifications, right now we are close on everything for the facade and to get us inside and that is running around \$100,000.00.

Mike said the vision for the upstairs would be what?

Chad said as projects like this develop, you guys I'm sure have seen many times in walks of life, more and more things come into the mix and by that I mean Ball State has already applied for a grant to cover the cost of the actual core content of the program inside and them sending students to us, us sending students to Ball State, working on ten projects where initially Ball State kids will be leading projects and our kids of Randolph County will be shadowing them and working with them and then the next set of projects our kids lead the projects and Ball State students will shadow them and mentor them through this. It is a tremendous opportunity, but what that means is more and more space is being spoken for the build out of this program. Originally, we had the upstairs slated for corporate suites for companies because Frank Miller Lumber, Echo, Workhorse when they have clients come to town, in Union City there is no where to stay. So, we had Corporate suites dedicated to those industries. That is starting to morph, so its important that we stay pliable with that upstairs. Either way we have a vision for the upstairs, its just we don't want to take away from the ground floor which is the foundation of this project for the county.

Tom said can you tell us what is this building, who built it, where did it come from?

Chad said the building was built back in the first decade of the 1900's and it is a very solid structure, it was a pharmacy, it has been many things back in the turn of the century but for most of its life its been a pharmacy with apartment living upstairs. I didn't want to revert back to apartment living upstairs because I want to secure and insure the project long term, that's why we had the idea of corporate suites.

Tom said how is it heated?

Chad said natural gas.

Tom said how old is the roof?

Chad said the roof is approximately three years old. That was my first question before the city pursued the building.

Tom said how many square feet total?

Chad said 10 to 12,000 square feet.

Mike said total or foot print?

Chad said that is just the first floor.

Tom said does it have a basement?

Chad said yes it does have a basement. Not what could be a finished basement.

Tom said does it leak?

Chad said when I was down there the basement was dry, I haven't been down there since the last rain but this was about two months ago.

Aaron Black said about a year ago in February we went through some training and some workshopping with Ball State University and it kind of gave us some things for the county to focus on, one was broadband, Randolph Eastern has proven our commitment to reach those goals, the other one was county school collaboration and that is something I am committed to, I think our programs especially between Randolph Central and Randolph Eastern, we are working very well together sending students down Union City Pike. I just hope on the bigger scheme of things, this is not just an educational investment, it's a quality of life issue for me who is a Union City resident, it's a broadband check one of those boxes for our students and more importantly it offers another great avenue of collaboration between Randolph County students. I think that is important, not just Randolph Eastern but all the schools need to be pushed and challenged, supporting one another because that is the only way we can offer the programming that we want to offer in Randolph County.

Bill Corbin said first of all, I am sort of an outsider, except I was class of 62 out of Union City. I had a chance to be other places and see other things happening of this kind and what's going on here is impressive. I don't know that I have ever seen a school and a community come together like is happening in Union City but when you add the Randolph County United concept, this is serious. This is stepping up to the future seriously. I came up to interrupt just for one reason, I was part of the reason sharing some information that I had about things that might go on the second floor. I was part of the reason we might have people sleep somewhere else. The main thing, huge things that is going on now is this incubation of entrepreneurship. My son is really active in Indianapolis and he said dad come down and see this place. Unreal. They've got one of the buildings actually has almost like little one room cabins, so they take an available building and put these cabins in it and then the entrepreneurs can set up their own business and go to work in them. They call it incubation of course for a good reason, because you are really giving them that chance of offsetting so many of the costs the people never get off the ground. It's a good idea. We in that second floor, we can do things like that very easily and relatively inexpensive, it is just more space and then the broadband you are putting in, all that stuff is ideal and has to happen or nothing will happen. That would be one example, but then what amounts to adult classrooms can go in there as well, teaching opportunities and that kind of thing. We were talking about the soft skills that kids need, just how to get along, how to apply for a job, how to operate when you're there, that can tie into those classrooms and leads into the idea that the kids

come back. I have talked before about the fact that I was here of course when the so called good old days had all the jobs, the plant and that kind of thing but I was never asked to move back to Union City and I'm not sure I wouldn't have come if somebody would have asked me, it just never presented itself. I think as a county now with what we are doing, we can talk about that. The future here will be bright so we become one of our own feeder systems to do the job development, that part of career development. We all want to say the opportunities are wide indeed and building this flexibly just makes its own sense.

Mike said if Covid taught us anything, a lot of people can work from anywhere. Choosing where is based upon what kind of education and safety their family if going to have, what kind of amenities I am going to have and what kind of home am I going to live in. All those things rural Indiana can offer as well as anybody else and this is one of those avenues. I commend you on your vision and your project.

Chad said I appreciate that, in fact I would be remiss if I didn't mention Collette Childress with OCRA is here and one thing I will try to be mindful of is having a broader vision, you guys have really done a good job of that from the county perspective. I am also trying from a State perspective to make sure I have that. Collette you mentioned something earlier about from OCRA's perspective, kind of what you guys are looking at nowadays with the changing environment.

Collette said you heard OCRA mentioned a little bit ago when Greg Beumer came in and talked a little bit about it. We are one of the small agencies that most people around the state don't know we exist until you hear what we offer and then you say I wish I would have known about you guys sooner. We do focus on four pillars of different development. Infrastructure meaning broadband. When the Governor allocated \$100,000,000.00 to broadband, he gave it to our agency. A staff of less than 17 people to run that program. We built that plan as we were flying it and we have deployed almost all of that money. It looks like this session he is going to give us a whole lot more. We are not even one of his agencies, I mean technically we all are together but we are under the Lieutenant Governors family business. So, he looked at an outside agency and said you guys are doing a fantastic job. Everything from water to broadband, we help communities. We also see the importance of placemaking and capacity building. I am one of those people that my father would say, I'm proud to say, I teach the man to fish, so this agency made a lot of sense to me. I work with communities to help them achieve their vision. I have been in this roll, I have been with the agency for 7 ½ years. I have been in this roll just over a year and one of my first phone calls was from two of the Mayors in this room and a couple of other people because they wanted me to know what was going on in the community and what their vision was so I could help. The first time I came out here, I met with the school, I met with Economic Development, I met with the County and I met with Winchester and Union City and they all shared their vision and to me they were creating a place. The other pillar we have is placemaking, I can talk for hours and hours about placemaking, but one of the things we are finding statistically is that one, one of the best financial decisions you can make as far as an investment is in education and is in your downtown. We have data to back up that every dollar that is invested in downtown is between \$35 and \$57.00 is returned on that investment. Now, if I went to my investment banker and told them I wanted that kind of investment return on my investment, they would probably laugh at me. But we do have data that looks at things like that

and what something like that would mean. The other thing we are finding time and time again across the world is creating employee attachment is intended to maintain your base. A project like this, like the gentlemen said, when you invite your citizens back, they just might come back and a project like that does do that because what is happening is that your students are going to get an education early on that they wouldn't get elsewhere. The community is saying we want you back here, so when they graduate, they're already trained, they have soft skills, your lessening the financial burden on your current employers. There are a lot of things behind the things that are coming into play when you look at a project like this. If you want to see more data or more case studies across Indiana, partnerships on projects like this, there is nothing exactly like this but I can tell you what the capacity of partnership has done. I am your community liaison too, so if you have questions you are always welcome to reach out to me.

Mike said with every proposal there is an ask?

Chad said if you don't mind I will turn it back around, I don't want to appear that we as this outside group are coming in asking. I really do want to try and impress upon the idea that does it make sense that the county, all of us can make something like this as a collective front?

Mike said for me, we should invest in Union City and we have in the past and we will continue in the future. The question becomes, is this your project that you think merits investment from the county?

Chad said yes. I want to make sure, I got this blessing from my mom and dad. You work hard, you make your way. I funded myself through school but when the time is right, when you see opportunity to collaborate and cooperate with others, that is when you reach out and see how we can work together and this is why I am here for this because I believe that much in this project and I believe this project means that much to the county. Because speaking of Randolph County United, I would love for this to be a huge feather in the cap of Randolph County United. I want Randolph County United to be on this building, on the glass front, inside the building because the founding fathers, when they started the country with 14 states, the idea was that every state have its own personality and to be its own thing but at the same time they need the power of being United. They knew that to be united and to be together in something is how you really truly push something forward. That is why I am here. Do we have your blessing in this project at least from what was laid out at the beginning and certainly in the approaching council as well?

Gary said I think it is a great idea, as I said before, I've been following it to some extent from the very start or at least when you started announcing your information at your council meetings and I think it is a great idea and I think from my perspective this is exactly where we should be putting some county funds to help put our money where our mouth is so to speak. In making that statement, I think, you say you have already got ¼ million.

Chad said that is what we are asking for, we have \$115,000.00 actually already and this is above and beyond what we have already spent as a city in purchasing the project and starting.

Gary said you are saying roughly you have a quarter and you would like another \$250,000.00 to go with that?

Chad said certainly out of the shoot and with the possibility as we go out, we would come back and ask for another \$250,000.00 for that match.

Gary said I think that needs to be our starting point for the county. To offer \$250,000.00 for the initial outlay to see where we're going because I think it is very positive and I think my mindset from the very start that we have to work together to get anywhere. I think you put a lot of effort into this planning, to me it has great potential. And get some great kids in there from all over the county, going there, working with Ball State students. I will make a motion that the county support this to the extent of \$250,000.00 with part of that coming from windfarm and part of it from EDIT.

Tom said how much, do we have EDIT money available?

Gary said we have the report Angela sent us this week.

Aaron said it is important to know that the school is putting skin in, we all know that we have extra funds coming available to us and the school is giving a portion of that to those and is actively writing grants daily to support this project, so there is going to be financial skin in the game from the school's perspective as well.

Mike said looks like EDIT has a little under \$500,000.00 available.

Meeks said is any of that committed?

Mike said the \$500,000.00 is not other than we have committed to a broadband tower, at least verbally committed to that. You do come at the right time. I don't want to quote, but I've heard a council member several times say you know Union City is the only community that we have not helped with wind farm funds. We just helped the City of Winchester. I would be inclined today, if we want to commit \$250,000.00, we commit it out of windfarm and see where that takes us.

Gary said I am not opposed to that.

Mike said then we have a real number in front of us and if they say they are not going to give them \$250,000.00 out of windfarm. Like the City of Winchester's deal, we did the same thing and they came back and said they were going to fund this and then we came back and said we will make the balance up with EDIT. I am not going to say that is going to happen but I think if we say windfarm because, I agree with you this is the kind of project that windfarm funds will help us and help us for long time.

Gary said eight, nine years ago when we first started discussing these types of funds coming in from the first windfarm, this is definitely the type of programs and type areas where this money should be invested.

Mike said if you were to amend your motion to say \$250,000.00 committed to Vision Corner using windfarm funds.

Gary said I think that is a better initial approach.

Tom said I would rather use EDIT myself. Use \$150,000.00 of windfarm with Winchester, I could see doing that.

Mike said you would rather recommend \$150,000.00 from windfarm and then we make up the difference of \$100,000.00 for EDIT?

Tom said yes.

Mike said I am okay with that if that is the way you want to proceed.

Gary said I am going to leave my motion to windfarm, because I think we need to start using some of that money for the type of program we are using. We suggested using it for road construction, bridge construction. I think there is other places other than just, to me infrastructure and the advancement of the county comes in many different areas and I think this is one area that should be at the top of the list. I will leave my motion as it was.

Mike said and that would be the \$250,000.00 out of windfarm?

Gary said yes.

Mike seconded. Two aye votes. Tom voted no. Motion carried two to one. We will make a recommendation of \$250,000.00 for Vision Corner to the Council tomorrow. Our one descending vote will be representing us at Council.

Chad said Tom, do I understand that you approve of the project, it is just a matter of where the funding is coming from?

Tom said yes.

Chad said do you want us to be at the Council meeting tomorrow. What do you recommend?

Mike said I think it would be appropriate for you to come, they have to agree to fund from windfarm. They could agree to fund \$50,000.00 out of windfarm or \$150,000.00 out of windfarm and if they don't agree to fund the \$250,000.00 based upon what Tom and I think we all would agree that we would probably revisit it with some of that balance out of EDIT.

### **Fred Hoffman- IT/GIS position**

Mike said I added Fred to the agenda. Fred is our IT manager and our GIS coordinator for most of the layers on the GIS map, we have other coordinators that maintain their own layers, Ed being one, Chris being another, I'm not sure where else they go but I think you indicated to us last week that we have 150 GIS layers.

Fred said approximately, I didn't add them all up, but I control 90 of them.

Mike said he controls 90 layers and the reason Fred is here is that he is retiring July 2. That gives us April, May and June to replace two valuable positions in the county. Gary Friend, I and Laura, the Computer Committee met last Thursday and discussed with Fred what the best course of action would be and I will just let Laura explain her position on it and what she thinks the best course of action should be.

Laura said Fred started out as GIS Coordinator full time. When the opening came up for IT, he took that on also. He has been doing both positions for 9 years. I would like to split those positions back out. I think we are going to be hard pressed to find somebody that can actually do both of those positions and get trained and be able to do them by the time he leaves. I am asking for a full time GIS Coordinator for the Auditors office and a full time IT. Instead of paying one full time position, I am asking for two. Fred agrees with me that he thinks it is going to be hard to find somebody to do both.

Fred said it is in the respect that I don't just do the two functions for the Auditor's office, I coordinate with all the departments that have the map. There is some synchronization and some items like that, that I do and no one else does.

Laura said he also does the combos and the splits on properties for the Auditor's office and as of right now he is the only one that can do that. I don't know that anyone in my office has the time to take on that extra task to what they are already doing.

Mike said as you explained Thursday, you would have full time work for this person?

Laura said there is plenty of work, that we can give to that person. Fred thinks it will take full time to get them trained, up and running and doing that job for quite some time but once they are, then we can take things from other people that are over loaded and put on that person to give them full time responsibilities.

Fred said I have been doing the mapping for 13 years, its relatively quick and easy for me but there is a pretty steep learning curve on it, it took me two or three years to really get proficient at it when I first started. I don't think you will be able to get a part timer in here to be able to do all the functions that I do with GIS. I agree with Laura that she needs a full timer in there. I think there is things she could unload from some of the others that are really heavy burdened right now. In essence we did lose a person in the Auditors office when I took both positions.

Mike said the reason we are talking about it today is number one to determine whether or not we want to begin with the thought that these positions be split and then number two authorize Laura to advertise the two split positions right away so if we do find a candidate that fills one or the other of the rolls we could then bring them in and have them work under the tutoring of Fred. Gary Friend was in the Computer Committee meeting and I think he understands the needs and the timing. Of course, he is just one Councilman, but I think this is where we begin and go down

that road. If we can't find anybody, at least on the GIS, I think our provider, WTH could do that on an outsource basis but with difficulty and who knows what that expense would be.

Fred said I am going to find out, I can get a quote for that, that will help you guys if we get to that point.

Mike said that could be per combine or split, they are going to charge us so much to do that. But then somebody has to get all that paperwork to them so they can get that done. I suppose there is opportunity to outsource the computer as well. I am not sure how efficient that would be and timely that would be when we had issues. For me the best-case scenario would be to hire a GIS/Auditor Deputy and then a Computer specialist within, that wants to live in Randolph County.

Tom said do we have money for this?

Mike said the funding would have to come from Council. It would be personal services.

Laura said right now his IT salary is paid out of Cum Cap and we pay a small portion out of plat book for his GIS stuff. We could still supplement some out of that but we don't make enough in that fund to cover a whole salary.

Mike said 85% of it comes out of Cum cap and 15% comes out of the Auditors Platbook. There would have to be a realignment of those salaries in the funds there but that would be something Council would do.

Mike said if we are okay with two positions, I would seek a motion to that and seek a motion to authorize Laura to advertise for those two positions.

Gary said I think that is the way we should go, I think your discussion there makes sense and that would be my opinion too that if we have to go outsourcing, we go with the GIS part and definitely keep the IT in house. I am not in favor at all of outsourcing the IT part.

Mike said I wouldn't be either, but I am not in favor of not having one either.

Tom said will you be here until July or do you have paid time off to take?

Fred said I have about four weeks in that period that whoever makes the decision can either pay me out or I will actually take the days either way.

Mike said he is willing to stick around.

Gary made a motion to split the IT/GIS into two positions and allow Laura to advertise it as such. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Mayor Bob McCoy**

Bob said Touch the Truck is Saturday, I think it starts at 10 am.



**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Art said the line that the Commissioner's have that I believe has \$30,000.00 in it. I talked to Angela on Thursday about. I am looking into with some of the changing laws, some of the laws that they are putting out with regard to bodycams, in car cams, some of the use of force issues. I have got a company that I am working with that acts on those, that does the tasers. I am looking to package some things for our department to have body cameras, mobile cameras and tasers. I have a meeting Wednesday by zoom and I am looking to see if I can earmark that line for some of these items. It is going to go over that, I have some other funding that is in my budget that we can use for that also. We may have to step some of this in because I don't think we can absorb all of the equipment in one year, all at once. I would like to do it over a couple of years. I am looking to possibly getting body cameras for all of the officers as well as tasers. It is a five-year commitment with cloud-based storage and as soon as my meeting is over Wednesday and I have more information I will get it to you but I know just the body cameras alone the first year is about \$38,000.00. It is a cloud-based storage system that has redaction included and the system we have set up currently for in and outs we are about to out grow so we will have to do something with it anyway to go a different direction with some of the statutes that they have. What I am looking for from you this morning is a commitment from that line.

Tom said what is that line?

Art said it is Computer video training that is in Cum Cap and it is a Commissioner's controlled line.

Tom said it is for the County not just the Sheriff's Department?

Art said correct. That is a County wide line.

Gary said I think that is definitely something that we need to move forward on as far as body cameras and tasers. I am surprised you have survived this far.

Art said we have had tasers, it is the version we have now, we can't get them fixed anymore.

Mike said how much are tasers?

Art said they run about \$1,400.00 to \$1,600.00 per taser. I am trying to get into a program that the company has where we would pay that maintenance throughout the five-year time and at the end of that time as the new stuff comes out or our equipment breaks, they replace it. There is a maintenance included with that.

Tom said how long do tasers last?

Art said the ones we have currently, we have used and have had a couple replacements or rebuilds done and we've had those for probably ten years. I don't know that they are designed to go that long. We are four models behind where they are currently because of the expense to get

them. I know all this would be included in the set up in bundling. I called them about the body cameras stand alone the first year for it was \$38,000.00 and each year there after it is \$16,000.00 and then they have a package where they will bundle the body camera with the taser, which is what my call is Wednesday to find out exactly what that is going to cost over all those years and I will get that information to you.

Mike said you don't think you can wait until you have that information before we determine how we are going to pay for that stuff?

Art said I can. Angela had told me when I talked to her, it is kind of a community line, so if somebody else would come forward before me it would be gone. I wanted to make sure that if I'm moving on something. I know I can do the body cameras, I don't know that I can combine the body cameras with the taser and then next year I would like to incorporate mobile cameras so we have them in the cars also.

Mike said how many body cameras are you buying?

Art said there will be 15.

Mike said same number of tasers?

Art said same number of tasers. The max we would buy would probably be 17.

Mike said now you are going to look for a combined price?

Art said yes.

Gary said we have \$30,000.00 Angela?

Mike said those two together is \$6750.00?

Art said I believe by packaging them, there is a reduced rate.

Mike said how much money do you have?

Art said I have another, I think there is about \$25,000.00 left in the account.

Angela said he has a \$30,000.00 line but I don't know what is left.

Art said we had \$30,000.00 but we spend some out of it, I know. Because that is the one we use to maintain throughout the year.

Mike said do we want to authorize him to use our entire \$30,000.00 or \$27,500.00?

Gary said I think definitely we need to get the cameras. I am a firm believer in those. My suggestion would be to come back with a package price of the two and let's talk about it then if we want two or three different funds to fund that.

Mike said is that okay with you Tom?

Tom said yes.

Art said I just wanted to put it on your radar in case somebody else came to request. They have some fascinating technology that has come about, with everything going on in the world, what's expected now this removes the human error under stress of forgetting to turn on a camera. There's some technology that is very worth having.

**Regular Claims \$823,076.59**

Gary made a motion to approve the regular claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Payroll Claims \$ 222,819.37 & \$222,718.08**

Gary made a motion to approve both of the payroll claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Jay Randolph Development – Muhlenkamp claim \$139,716.09**

Mike said the Muhlenkamp claim for Jay Randolph Developmental is for their OCRA grant remodel and it has been signed by the contractor and it has been certified by the architect in the amount of \$139,716.09.

Tom made a motion to approve the Muhlenkamp claim as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Randolph County United Claim \$18,467.67**

**Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$2,365.67**

Gary made a motion to approve the two Randolph County United claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Minutes of March 15, 2021**

Mike asked is there any additions, corrections or deletions to these minutes?

Gary made a motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2021 as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Comp time reports**

Mike said we received a copy of the comp time report via email. Are there any questions or comments about the comp time report?

**TIF Management Annual Report**

Mike said we have the TIF management annual report, this is our county redevelopment commission. County members Brody Tarter, Gregory Cheesman, Dallas Osting, Jentry Flesher and Lee Zimmerman. This report is dated 12/31/20. We received a copy of this via email, this is for the Cardinal Energy park economic development. We just have to review it. Any questions or comments about this report.

#### **MPX contract Exhibit G**

Laura said MPX had not completed this form and they have now, so it just needs signed.

Mike said this is a certification indicating that MPX solution is not an investment in Iran. We are going to acknowledge that we received it and Laura will attest that we have it.

#### **Meeks Cockerill**

Meeks said I have four fiber optic easements.

Mike said we have four easements that need to be approved for the fiber optic conduit that we are placing along side of the windfarm, so that we can have potential of fiber in the area of the windfarm.

Tom made a motion to approve the four fiber optic easements. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

#### **Tom Chalfant**

Tom said I am trying to get hold of the Amish about the rent, he was not there this morning, I will try later today to talk to him and see if he found help or if he is going to leave. I don't know where he is at with it.

Gary said do you have a time frame?

Tom said no, other than he is paid up until the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. He gave me notice about 20 days ago, a 90-day notice.

Mike said I'm not sure we need to hold him to that.

#### **Mike Wickersham**

Mike said I am sure that everybody is aware that the Governor has released the citizens from the mask mandate effective tomorrow. If you have been vaccinated according to my sources you don't need to wear masks, it varies. It wasn't an executive order but his letter indicated that we as a county have the authority to require masks in this building and other county buildings or we don't have to require masks. Businesses and other entities, except for schools, school are treated a little different, businesses and other entities make their own determination and then we as a county also have charge of capacity limits for gatherings. I talked to Dr. Sowinski last week about what his recommendations would be and with regards to venue capacity, he recommended that we follow what was the states capacity limits, which means it is based upon the color-coded county level. If we are a blue county, then capacity is 250 people or 100% capacity with six foot spacing and exceeding 250 you require a safety plan from the health department. Yellow is the same except the capacity limit is 100, orange is the same except the capacity limit is 50 and red

is the same except the capacity limit is 25. Two weeks ago, we were at blue but now we have gone down to a yellow I believe so that means our capacity limit would be 100 and if you have more than 100 you present your plan to the health department of how you are going to take care of more than 100 people. If it is to the health departments satisfaction then you can have more than 100. For me I think we should follow the health departments recommendation on capacity limits with regards to masks in the courthouse and other public county owned facilities, the Governor left in place the mask mandate in state owned facilities and I of one to say at this time we should do that as well. Leave the mask mandate here. Finally, from my stand point, I don't feel comfortable mandating anything beyond that, I don't think we have the power to mandate anything beyond that but I think we should advise the citizens of Randolph County that in public places we should wear a mask when we are not appropriately six foot apart. Outside I don't think a mask is required and that is where I would leave it. As an example, Wicks Pies, at our place of business, we are going to maintain masks within our facility and at our restaurant we are going to maintain mask unless you are seated at a table.

Tom said that is fine with me.

Gary said I agree.

Mike said I will make a motion to follow the Health officer's guidance with regards to the capacity limits and mask mandate in public buildings owned by the County. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

Ceann Bales said I will get on the agenda for next meeting to give a quarterly update and hopefully have a proposal on how to proceed with hiring someone to help move things regarding the tower forward quickly.

Meeks asked for clarification, when you say mask mandate that is in all county owned buildings.

Mike said yes.

Bob McCoy said I don't know how long ago but the City basically took on the responsibility of taking care of horses that were taken from a property owner that wasn't taking care of them. We have been taking care of them for quite a while, we have been lucky that money was raised through go fund me to keep them horses fed. We are incurring overtime taking care of them at times. The last court date got postponed. Anything you guys can do to put a boot up somebody butt to get this moving along would be great because we would like to get those horses to some people that would take care of them and get this behind us.

Mike said I don't know what we can do. How many horses are there?

Bob said six.

Meeks said the next hearing date is April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am.


Mike said we will do what we can. Are there any other citizen comments?

**Adjournment**

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

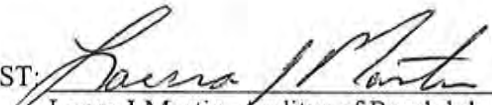
Reviewed and signed this 19 day of April, 2021.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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ATTEST:   
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Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County