

Randolph County Council

September 4, 2024

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner's update

Mike Wickersham said we met yesterday, short agenda. I see Randy's here. One of the things we talked about was, you guys I guess talked about our budget hearing, fulfilling Randy's responsibility in the event that he is out on any sort of extended absence. And we suggested to him yesterday that he talk with Keith Pugh, who he recommended to take his place. And as opposed to paying Keith as a part-time employee, to find out from Keith what his cost would be to the county for the functions he would perform as a building inspector. Come up with a plan in that respect, see how much he anticipates that would cost us for Randy's extended leave, and then put that lump sum in his budget and pay a contracted employee, which I think Randy is going to speak to later. We kind of recommended that to him and we think that'll work. The second thing we talked about was Your Life Speaks, which is a limited liability company ran by Nathan Harmon. Nathan Harmon is a motivational speaker for kids. And Anne Taylor and her group throughout the county is going to bring Nathan to the county October 28th and October 29th to speak to kids about mental health. It's a cost of \$8,000.00. We attempted to get the schools to share in that expense at \$1,600.00 apiece, but they couldn't afford it. So, we came up with opioid funds of \$8,000.00 to fund that. So, we are funding that. That was really all we decided yesterday. I do have a couple of things that I announced. One thing I announced yesterday was with regards to the Vision Trail, I found out in the last 5 or 6 weeks that the A & R Pipeline Company does not want to participate. With them not wanting to participate, that trail will not travel across any right-of-way from about 950 South, east of Losantville to Modoc. So, that trail is not going to happen anytime in the near future. I've talked to DNR because that does change the scope of our trail. And that's about a 2-mile stretch. And one of the things we did in our application, because we didn't have property owner consent to participate, which we did have from A & R, but they withdrew that, but we do have 2 property owners southwest of Modoc, that we did not include in our original application. One of them has since come back and said he would like to participate, or they would like to participate. The other's, I'm in conversation with. I shared all this with the DNR and they are okay for us to change the scope of our trail from eliminating the A & R portion east of Modoc and adding the, would be the Poole

property and the Liberman property, west of Modoc, and transfer those costs and expenses. So, the DNR has agreed to do that, and so we're going to proceed in that form and manner. So, it doesn't make the trail as long, but it keeps the trail connected and we're not going to use any county highways in Henry County or Randolph County once this is completed. And then the last thing I want to talk about, which we didn't report, but we've all heard of the council reducing our EDIT budget by \$35,000.00 at the budget hearing on October 20th or 21st. And I guess as a commissioner who wrote and amended that budget, and who had it approved by the EDIT board, I guess I'm just here to ask why that happened? If someone wants to share that. You don't have to share that, but it would be nice to know why we reduced it by \$35,000.00, the EDIT budget?

David said anybody want to share why we did?

Tom Chalfant said was it 250 to 215?

Tom Kerns said 270 to 235.

David said 270 to 235.

Mike Wickersham said well ultimately, it was \$907,875 to \$872,875. You reduced our EDIT budget. Now you applied that to one-line item, Randolph County Economic Development and Tourism. And I, that's the question I have.

Missy said I'll tell you what my feeling was. I had heard that Tourism was going to have to go out on their own. And so, I felt that money could be used for Tourism to continue to exist in another location and pay a part-time director, because I thought they were going to get stuck out on their own from what I had been understanding and been told.

Mike Wickersham said I understand that. So, is that a council's decision or would that be the commissioners' decision to amend the EDIT plan to have that reflected in that way?

Bev said that's probably a Meeks' question.

Meeks said it's a, commissioners decide EDIT funding.

Mike Wickersham said my concern is that council has in effect, amended the EDIT plan, and you don't have authority to do that. You have authority, as near as I can tell, to do what you did, but to amend the EDIT plan, not only affects the commissioners, and I guess, what I'm hearing from Missy is that you don't think that we have the best interest in the county when we wrote that EDIT plan.

Missy said but that's not what I've wanted interpreted.

Mike Wickersham said well it sounded like that. So, the other side of it is, we have an EDIT board that meets whenever we change that EDIT plan or whenever we seek approval of that EDIT plan, and that board meets and it approves the plan too. So, you're not only affecting our decision, but you're affecting the County EDIT board decision. And again, I'm not saying you

don't have the authority to do that. I received a copy of our budget on June 25th. You made the change on August 21st. We had 2 July meetings, and we had 1 August meeting that any one of you could have come and said we don't like your EDIT budget, we think the Randolph United is getting too much money, we think we ought to earmark that money for Tourism, or for whatever reason. And it would have given us the opportunity to deliberate and decide whether or not we wanted to change the plan. And you took that away from us. And that's not going to affect me, because I'm, as you're all aware, I'm done at the end of the year. But as we go forward, and I will say for the last 12 years, the council and the commissioners have cooperated. I don't think this has ever happened before. And the commissioners have helped the council in respect to payment of medical expenses, healthcare for employees. We took that out of EDIT. That wasn't something the commissioners had to do. We could have taken it out of Rainy Day. But we took it out of EDIT, and you didn't keep that from happening. You appropriated that. And we're glad you did. But my point is that we've always cooperated. And the EDIT plan has been something that for the 12 years, the commissioners have, I think, spent wisely. And I think we've spent knowing that you're going to agree with us, or tell us you don't. And in this case, you told us you didn't. You told us you didn't by reducing the budget by \$35,000.00, which leave us in kind of a fickle position. I don't know, do we have to go back and amend our plan so it balances, or do we find support for that \$270,000? Do we do a grant to Randolph United to say here's the \$35,000 that the council took away from us. Well, that's kind of a wishy-washy thing because then it comes to you for an appropriation and you can say well, we're not going to appropriate. So, where does that leave the county in county finances? To me, it leaves it in turmoil. So, what I'm saying is, even though you have the authority to do what you did, I think, I'm not, my attorney tells me that, I don't think you have the authority to amend the EDIT plan. So, I don't know where we're going to go with that. But, at a minimum, I think it's bad policy. I think it sets a precedent of bad policy for the county. And again, the better route, in my opinion would have been come to a meeting and say I hear Tourism is going out, is going to separate, and I've not heard that, but maybe you know more than I do, but if they are, and maybe more money should be spent for Tourism. And I have to remind you of the \$270,000.00, Tourism gets about \$29,000.00 of that. It's earmarked for Tourism in that office. So, I guess, I don't like your decision. I think that's kind of obvious, but I'm just sharing my opinion about it, and I think it affects more than Randolph County United. It affects the commissioner and the board of commissioners in that I think you're wading into our waters by doing this. And I just wanted to share that on behalf of the commissioners. Do you have any questions of me?

Tom Chalfant said well, not a question, but I think you've pretty much proved what I've been trying to say. This whole thing is so convoluted. Like I said, this, we take taxpayers' money and give it to private citizens to do what they think is best with it. We are accountable to the taxpayers and we give money to other people who have no directors, who's in Hawaii right now, and he's, you know, what's going on over there in that office right now.

Mike Wickersham said it's continuing to march. Of course, I'm on the board. I don't know if any of you are on that board?

Tom Chalfant said well that's.

Mike Wickersham said you have an opportunity to sit on that board and you chose not to. You appointed someone else and I don't know if she reports to you what's going on over there. But it's a pretty active organization even though the executive director is in Hawaii. And it's an independent organization spending tax dollars, about 60% of their budget is tax dollars, and I agree with that. And it should have oversight. But that's why the board of directors has a council, 2 mayors, a commissioner and a council member. And I serve as a commissioner. Mayor McCoy just appointed Jim Nunez to serve in his place. Chad, I believe, serves in his place, no.

David said no, I think he appoints somebody.

Mike Wickersham said he appoints someone, and council appointed Cheryl Prescott. So, if there're issues over there, then I would recommend, get involved. You have that opportunity to meet. They meet once a month. It's another meeting, but that's what we're in this business for is meetings. That's why we sign up for the job if you want to know the truth of it. We do a lot of meetings.

Missy said Mike, if there isn't an office space for a Tourism director, where do they go?

Mike Wickersham said there's an office space there. I don't know where you got that idea Missy. The other Tourism director retired. They hired Evaughna Shephard to do marketing and Tourism, which, in my opinion, is an opportunity to market the county and in some respects, they serve the same role. Tourism goes beyond, I guess Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, but somewhat, they serve the same role. So, she was using 2 offices. Our last meeting, we talked about the Tourism Commission hiring another director since Evaughna went back to school to teach, which is kind of exciting. We lost an employee to go back to teach at Wicks too, which I think is interesting that kids are going back to teach. But the Tourism talked about hiring a director and they were to bring a proposal to us at the next meeting. Now, whether that proposal was we want out of here, I don't know what that proposal is going to be. But, I will say that if Tourism is no long affiliated with Randolph County, United, which is Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, then that \$35,000.00 or \$29,000.00 that they get a claim for every month, Randolph County United gets a claim for it every month for Tourism, I'm not sure the commissioners would want to continue to pay Randolph County United that because they don't have the expense of a tourism commissioner in there. Now whether that goes to Tourism or not is not your call. That's the commissioners' call. We wouldn't have to earmark that for Tourism. We could say it go to a grant writer. Let's say a grant writer. I don't know. It could go wherever we think best or the county.

David said so, do you know if Tourism has hired a part time?

Mike Wickersham said I do not know.

Tom Kerns said they have hired somebody.

Mike Wickersham said the conversation was that they needed somebody to complete forms that nobody else knew how to complete. So, they have hired a part-time?

David said they have.

Mike Wickersham said okay. Are they working out of the Randolph United Office?

David said there's no room over there for them. That's what we're being told.

Mike Wickersham said by whom?

David said several different people that said that they may give a small portion of the conference room to Tourism. Have you heard that?

Mike Wickersham said no.

David said that's going around, Mike.

Mike Wickersham said well going around is not fact.

Tom Kerns said it was brought up at our budget hearing. That was stated at our budget hearing about potentially, there not being space for them.

Mike Wickersham said by Gary Friend?

Tom Kerns said no, no. By the Tourism Board.

Mike Wickersham said that they didn't have office space?

Tom Kerns said they were potentially moving, they were looking at other options of office space because there wasn't office space.

Mike Wickersham said there was no room for them at the Randolph United office?

Tom Chalfant said there's quite a bit of room over there, Mike, that's for sure.

Mike Wickersham said well I'm telling you there's plenty of room over there, and I don't know where, that's not a board decision. I can guarantee you that.

Missy said there're 3 offices. And so, if you have the executive director in one and if you have Jackie in another one, then if you have Kerry McCoy, where is there room over there at Tourism.

Tom Chalfant said but there're 3 empty conference rooms

Mike Wickersham said there're 3 offices in the office, and then the marketing director always was in the first conference room outside of the board room.

Missy said I don't know.

Mike Wickersham said I do. That's where the marketing director always sat. It's carved out over there. And Scottie Harvey, when she was Tourism director, she was in the first office right there.

Missy said right.

Mike Wickersham said I don't know who's in that office now.

Missy said I don't know.

Mike Wickersham said but I don't know what you folks know. Any other questions?

David said anything else for Mike?

Mike Wickersham said one question I have is, is there a council person on the handbook committee?

Laura said yeah, Bev.

Mike Wickersham said Bev?

Bev said yes.

Mike Wickersham said I sent you an email this morning, I will not be there tomorrow.

Bev said I got that.

Mike Wickersham said I copied Gary Girton and was hoping maybe Gary could go in my place instead.

Laura said I'll try to call him.

David said he's back there.

Mike Wickersham said I know he is. Thank you.

David said okay. Let's go to the Budget adoption.

Mike said excuse me, Dave. Jackie Welch is here on behalf of Randolph United. I just asked her if we have room for Tourism in the office and Jackie nodded her head, yes. I guess I'm not sure where you guys are getting your information, but I think it probably should come from the horse's mouth I guess. Thank you.

Missy said maybe we should, should Jackie explain some of this?

David said well, we can bring her on down to the other people. Got to move on to his budget adoption.

Missy said okay.

Budget adoption

Randolph County Ordinance 2024-14

David said first one on our agenda is Randolph County Ordinance 2024-14. This ordinance for appropriation of, and tax rates. This would be the tax rates for the budget. I guess, I'd entertain, any questions on that? You've all been through it? So, I'd entertain a motion for the council to pass Ordinance 2024-14 after the first reading.

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Tom Kerns seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

David said I'll just go ahead and do what Bev did. Need a motion to move the rules be suspended and have the 2nd and 3rd reading by title only and adopted the same day?

Todd made motion to approve. Tom Chalfant seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

David said next, we need a motion to, for the council to adopt ordinance 2024-14.

Todd made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County Solid Waste Ordinance 2024-15

David said okay the next budget adoption for Randolph County Solid Waste Ordinance 2024-15.

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

David said need a motion to suspend the rules and have 2nd and 3rd reading by title only and adopted the same day.

Tom Kerns made motion to approve. Todd seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

David said need a motion to move that council adopt ordinance 2024-15.

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ridgeville Public Library Ordinance 2024-16

David said okay and the last one for budget adoption is for the Ridgeville Public Library Ordinance 2024-16.

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Todd seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

David said need a motion to move that the rules be suspended and have 2nd and 3rd reading by title only and adopted the same day.

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

David said need a motion now that council adopt ordinance 2024-16.

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randy Abel – funding for contract inspections

David said Randy, would you like to come on up?

Randy Abel said morning. I guess the discussion has been that we need to probably get Keith Pugh to contract with the county to do inspections for whenever I'm off for extended periods of time. So, I talked to Keith yesterday after the commissioners' meeting. And you know, we got to talking about, so, he would have to obviously, have gas, phone costs, social security, pay his own taxes, all that. So, and he's got an architect stamp. And I thought he was very reasonable. He shot the price of \$35.00 an hour. I thought that was very reasonable. And he has done the job before. So, he would fit right in. He knows the routine. So, I thought that was pretty good. So, we tried to figure out, a number of inspections, and we came up with somewhere between 20 or 30 a week. So, I can tell you 30 hardly ever happens. You can't do 6 inspections a day. There's no way. But, I mean, unless I'm traveling and they're just right in a row. You know, you get going from side to side, that'll never happen. So, just, the maximum, I was thinking, well just figure 30 times 35, and that comes out to about a little over a 1000 dollars week. So, you can set aside that and figure if you're off 4, 5 or 6 weeks, you're only, not necessarily going to spend all this, correct. So, I don't know what you want to really put down for a line or, to appropriate. But, I thought if you just set aside, somewhere, 10,000 or a little less, and then, you know just use out of it over the time. I mean, that's up to you.

David said we'd have to create a line item Laura?

Laura said yeah.

David said an additional?

Meeks said under contract services.

Laura said right. Yeah, we have a contract service line. We've just got to put it in his budget, and then Meeks will do the contract, right?

Meeks said the commissioners will do the contract.

Laura said I mean, you'll draw it up?

Meeks said yeah, we'll draw something up, independent contractor. It'll say independent contractor, 35 bucks and hour. Then they'd have to, he would have to submit the time to the auditor's office.

Tom Chalfant said now, will he come in and sit in the office or will he just go?

Randy Abel said no, he'll just take phone calls I think.

Tom Chalfant said then if he gets called to do one, he'll do that.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Tom Chalfant said if he gets one call, is he going to work all day or is he just going to do that inspection for 3 hours?

Randy Abel said I think, we'll have to kind of organize that. I told him, I said you know, we need to let everybody know. It's supposed to be a 24-hour notice for inspection. Lot of guys are getting the habit of just calling and if I'm available or out, they'll call me and then I'll just run to do that one. So, a lot of times, it's not a 24-hour. It's like a 10-minute notice they give you. So, we're going to have to kind of train the contractors again and try to set things up to where he's got more efficient inspections.

Tom Chalfant said he just needs to tell them I'll be there tomorrow.

Randy Abel said yes, exactly.

Tom Chalfant said hey if you're waiting on this, I can't make it until tomorrow.

Randy Abel said so, we'll try to make it as efficient for him as possible, in those circumstances.

David said okay. So, you'll do the agreement, right Meeks?

Meeks said for the commissioners, yeah. We talked about it. The talking yesterday was there's no reason to do an agreement unless we have money, well, money to pay him from a line.

David said and can we still add 10,000 to our budget?

Laura said we'll just do an additional appropriation.

David said okay. I wanted to make sure which direction.

Laura said you can get with Danita to do it.

Meeks said it's not Keith. If Keith can't do it, I think you have other people line up maybe, you were talking about.

Randy Abel said yeah.

Tom Chalfant said you have other people identified?

Randy Abel said I do.

Meeks said haven't talked to them yet, but.

Randy Abel said I talked to a couple of them, but you know, some of them will say I'll do this inspection but I don't want to do, like electrical, I don't want to do plumbing, so. There're other options out there, and it was mentioned to us too that I mean, you probably have all heard we've had an issue with one of the contractors and I made him change the windows twice. And he's pretty upset. And the comment was made if you have a contractor hired to do that, there could be some real friction involved. With Keith, I don't think you have any problems because he's not a contractor.

Meeks said yeah, he's retired. He is retired, isn't he?

Randy Abel said he's, yeah, well, yes.

Meeks said sort of, kind of.

Randy Abel said yeah, we do have other options. And hopefully, we can get this approved by the commissioners also by name.

David said okay. Anything else for Randy while he's here? Okay. As far as that, we'll do an additional. Meeks will write the contract.

Randy Abel said okay. Thank you very much.

Meeks said I'll send it over to you for the commissioners where they can sign it.

Randy Abel said thank you very much.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

David said okay, Sheriff?

Art Moystner said did you guys say something about a handbook committee meeting tomorrow?

Meeks said correct.

Art Moystner said there is one?

Meeks said yeah, yes.

Art Moystner said do we have a time and location for that?

Meeks said it's 9 o'clock here.

Art Moystner said okay.

Laura said 9:30.

Meeks said 9:30 here.

Art Moystner said and I don't have anything else this morning. You guys have questions for me?

David said I don't have any. Anybody else got any for sheriff?

Art Moystner said thank you.

David said thanks, Art.

Minutes of August 6, 2024

David said okay, let's go to the minutes of August 6. Entertain a motion.

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

Additional Appropriations:

General

Computer Maintenance	\$2000.00
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David said okay, let's go to Additional Appropriations. First on our agenda is computer maintenance of \$2,000.

Todd made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

EDIT

Legal fees & other services	\$39,700.00
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Tom Chalfant said can we have a brief summary of the legal fees?

Laura said I think it's for SJCA.

David said yeah. It's for whatever task order number 2 is.

Laura said it's the 1000 West project. SJCA was doing a study for that.

David said yeah. Do you want to read it? Anybody else want to look at it? Entertain a motion to approve the legal fees and other services for the SJCA task order number two?

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Cum Cap

Building Maintenance	\$20,000.00
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David said okay the next one is out of Cum Cap development for building maintenance of 20,000.

Todd made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Elected Official Training (Auditor) \$1,000.00

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Todd seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Children Advocacy

Coordinator Fee	\$750.00
Part time employees	\$6,000.00
Training/Schooling	\$3,364.00
Mobile Phone	\$20.00
Postage	\$400.00
Travel/Mileage	\$3,000.00

David said and the last one, I'll just take the whole thing, Children Advocacy. Coordinator fee, part time employees, training/schooling, mobile phone, postage, travel mileage.

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

<u>Transfer</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
911 Center		
\$837.00	Maintenance	Equipment

David said okay and the last item I have on the agenda is the transfer of the 911 Center \$837.00 for maintenance to equipment.

Todd made motion to approve. Tom Kerns seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

David said Jackie, would you like to come up, share some stuff with us, questions, see what's going on?

Jackie Welch said yeah. I mean, what question you have, I guess. We have office space, and I thought we had made that clear even at our last board meeting to Cheryl Prescott. I know her and I had discussed that. We've shared office, I mean Lynette and I shared an office, Evaughna and I shared an office. So, we have no problem with that. So, that would be misinformation for the office space. Any other questions?

Missy said have you communicated with the Tourism board, itself?

Jackie Welch said oh, yes.

Missy said have you attended one of their meetings and tried to work all this stuff out?

Jackie Welch said uh huh. Now I haven't been to the last one. I know they were having an executive committee; they have like an executive committee meeting about the interim process, what they were doing with the Tourism director, but yeah, Cheryl and I have discussed. And as you guys know, we hired Kerry McCoy in the interim process for marketing and to offer that as Tourism as well, if they needed. And we discussed that Cheryl, Andy Fahl, our board chair, we met all before doing that to discuss what that would look like. And of course, he took it back to the Tourism commission with that idea. But we knew as an organization, we had to have help with the marketing in the interim. And then once Dan returns, which is actually the end of this month, here at the end of September, we'll go through the official hiring process with Kerry or whoever else then applies for that role.

Missy said so will she be the Tourism director and what will her title be?

Jackie Welch said well I can't say that for the Tourism. I mean, I think that's still some of the details they're working out. If they're going to keep it combined Tourism and marketing director, what that will look like. But that was generally, the idea to keep it like we were having with Evaughna, is what we were thinking moving forward. But none of that has been officially decided.

Missy said is Tourism been asked to pay an additional appropriation to Randolph County United to be in that office?

Jackie Welch said no, Tourism hasn't paid anything to Randolph County United.

Missy said have they been asked to pay?

Jackie Welch said for this year, not to my knowledge, huh uh.

Missy said for the future?

Jackie Welch said no, I mean, we haven't had any discussions about next year's, we're just getting ready to start our budget for next year for RCU.

Missy said has there been any sit-down with who's the president of Tourism now?

Jackie Welch said Cheryl Prescott.

Missy said have you sat down with her and had any discussions on this?

Jackie Welch said oh yeah. I mean with the change of all, yes, her, Andy and I met a couple different times yeah.

Missy said maybe people don't know, but a lot of the events that happen in our small towns, and even Winchester and Union City, those are supported by Tourism, whether it is, historically, they do it, these are repeat events that people really look forward to, whether it's the Christmas

festivities at Farmland, Lynn, Saratoga, summertime picnic to bring all of their citizens and any visitors into there. Tourism probably does a lot more than what people think. They don't maybe have Tourism flashed up there that they sponsored that, but I think those events, in my opinion, are extremely important because they bring communities together. And other people come in for a lot of those things. So, I think the list of what Tourism have done historically is a lot longer than what, is a lot more extensive than what I ever thought it was before I worked over there. I mean, they do a lot. And I guess, from what I heard by talking to Cheryl is they're really concerned about did they have space; did you want them over there. And I'm not sure, maybe, I'll talk to her again and see if she feels that that group feels like it's been remedied. I kind of feel like I thought they had mentioned that they had been asked to pay for office space, asked what the county was giving them.

Jackie Welch said no. I mean that hasn't been, that wasn't discussed to my knowledge.

Missy said has there been like an agreement that you've written up and you've wanted Tourism to sign?

Jackie Welch said they've had a contract in the past, and I believe they were, last year, asked to pay half the salary of the Tourism director because so far this year, Randolph County United has paid the full salary of the Tourism director.

Missy said but they did that historically I think.

Jackie Welch said I mean, I don't know that.

Missy said I think historically, they always paid the Tourism.

Tom Chalfant said that came out of that claim.

Jackie Welch said with the commissioners ear marked, yeah. Yeah, we definitely, we want them to stay and we want to continue to work together, because we think that's what's best for the county.

Tom Kerns said is the Chamber of Commerce involved in like, the activities, in the past when we had individual, Union City and Winchester, we always saw the Chamber. You know, they did all kind of events in Union City's, and we don't see them anymore. Are they involved in those events, like the Heritage Days in Union City and?

Jackie Welch said yeah, I mean Randolph County United supported Heritage Days I believe as a sponsor, or whatever that would be. But, we don't necessarily help plan those. We are part of those. I know well, Kerry McCoy is at a meeting right now with the Main Street. We serve on that committee with their promotions and the events that they have for Christmas and things for downtown. But yeah, we don't, it's a little bit different, I believe, than what's it's been done in the past to do the events. We've kind of, the Chamber has taken on the role of more supporting small businesses and education in helping them be successful in their community. That's kind of the role the Chamber has taken as far as that goes. But yeah, but we're definitely in all the

communities and helping and trying to help businesses and promote whatever they're doing. And again, that ties back to the marketing and Tourism.

Missy said would the businesses say that they feel like they're being contacted and interacted with, do you think?

Jackie Welch said honestly, part of this last several months with Dan being gone, not as much as they used to be, as we've had to divide and take on more roles with a smaller team. But, I would say yeah, in the past, I feel like yeah, we, I mean I was over there once a week in Union City. And I know Kerry, having her, bringing her on board has been really helpful. She's been good about getting out. You've probably seen her on social media.

Missy said yeah, I've heard she has really gotten out trying to make contacts.

Jackie Welch said yeah so, yeah, I think we're getting back into that and excited for Dan to be back and be able to have a full team.

David said so, now you have a staff, when Dan gets back, you'll have a staff of 4, is that correct?

Jackie Welch said correct.

David said minus Tourism, right?

Jackie Welch said correct, I mean, yeah.

David said that would be 5.

Jackie Welch said correct, yeah, which is what we had, what, a year ago, before Scottie retired. Any other questions?

Missy said so, that's a, that's a full person more than what they've ever had before.

David said right.

Jackie Welch said we had 5 people before.

Missy said when I was there, they were at 4. Never 5.

David said any other questions for Jackie? Alright. Thanks Jackie. Okay, let's go around the room. Tom, you have anything?

Tom Kerns said I do not.

David said Todd? Mike? Missy?

Missy said no.

David said Tom? I don't either today. That's unusual. I guess the next famous words are I'd entertain a motion to adjourn. Any citizens comments before we? Okay seeing no citizens' comments.

Adjournment

Tom Chalfant made motion to adjourn. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and accepted 3 day of December, 2024

David Lenkensdofer

David Lenkensdofer

Tom Chalfant

Tom Chalfant

Beverly Fields

Beverly Fields

Missy Williams

Mike Stine

Mike Stine

Todd Holaday

Tom Kerns

Attested:

Laura North

Randolph County Auditor