

Randolph County Council

May 4, 2021

The Randolph County Council met for its regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Council President Gary Friend, Rick Brown, Tom Kerns, Max Holaday, David Lenkensdofer, Missy Williams and Beverly Fields. Also present was County Auditor Laura J Martin.

Council President Gary Friend presided.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mike Haffner – Add line in local road and street to purchase truck

Mike said I need a new line set up in local road and street for equipment purchase so we can buy a dump truck that was already approved. We need to establish a new 1169 line for equipment purchase and then we are going to transfer \$210,000.00 out of wedge and resurfacing into that equipment purchase line.

Gary said this has all been prebudget, we just need to set up the accounting, Angela does that sound correct?

Angela said yes, I asked Mike since we are reducing wedging and resurfacing by \$210,000.00, how will we pay for wedging and resurfacing and they do have another fund to pay for that from.

Dave said is that for this year's truck or last year? Didn't we dedicate for one last year?

Mike said we approved it last year to piggyback on that price but the truck has been delivered and is waiting on the body.

Dave said so, that is this truck, from last year?

Mike said yes.

Missy said Mike is it possible to get inventory on every truck you have and what year it is and how many miles.

Mike said I will send that out again, I have done that in the past but we have a couple new members. It breaks down each truck, what the use is and the age and mileage. I will send that out today.

Missy said with those roads out there in the southwest section.

Mike said if you are wanting an update on the windfarm roads, the Commissioner's and I have been working on a plan. I have drove every single mile and we've got a break down mile to mile on what kind of repair that needs to happen and how may feet of grinding or patchwork that needs to go on that road before we can even put a surface on it. I reported to the Commissioner's yesterday we are waiting on some budgetary numbers but the projected budget numbers are in that \$5 to \$6 million-dollar range.

Missy said what was the agreement, who is going to repair the roads and put them back, who is going to pay?

Mike said theoretically it is EDPR, they have already sent us \$2 million thinking that was all the damage that was going to be done which we have seen significant more damage than what was originally planned. I don't want to speak for the Commissioner's but I believe what happens is we present a budgetary number to them and then they can either agree or they can renegotiate a different price. I am not sure what the procedures are there, but we are going to everything we feel needs to be replace and what damage was there, we are going to present it to them. We've got bridges, culverts and all that to be added to all that too because there was damage to all those structures too.

Gary said can we prove preexisting conditions?

Mike said yes.

Dave said the way I understand it also the bridges, right Mike? There are four bridges involved?

Mike said we have post construction inspections on the bridges and they are in the process of doing that again because we know on one bridge there was some guardrail damage. They are going to be going out here directly and checking to see if the bridge was damage at all, we've got about four bridges. There was a structure on 1000 W that was a concrete structure and it failed and collapsed, so we put a temporary pipe in, we couldn't get a concrete structure in, in the time frame they wanted.

Gary said are they easy to work with or are they being difficult?

Mike said so far, when we've had meetings, definitely the confusion is the heavy haul routes and what they call low volume roads and even when Tom Chalfant and I was out inspecting them roads on non-haul routes or low volume there was still completely loaded semi's going down them roads. I suggested to the Commissioner's in the future there's a lot of confusion on the heavy haul route and low volume route, so let's just call it what it is. They've got multiple different sub-contractors that pretty much drive anything they want. I think in the future, say if you're on these roads no matter what you're going to be paying them. No traffic means absolutely none, not even a pickup.

Dave said I talked to Perry Knox after the meeting yesterday from SJCA and they are going to do a complete evaluation of each bridge as I understand it. I think he and I both worry about the

deck, could be once the deck is violated over the years it turns to basically crushed stone and he was concerned that some of the decks could be damaged.

Mike said in the meetings with Don Peterson, which is your general contractor that is ramrodding the whole thing, he said there in no doubt even the lighter haul roads was significantly impacted.

Gary asked if there was anything else from Mike. If not, we will go back to the request to set up a line in 1169 for equipment purchases and the transfer out of wedging. Does somebody want to make a motion on that?

Transfers:
\$210,000.00

From:
Wedging/Resurfacing

To:
Road Equipment

Dave made a motion to set up a line in 1169 for equipment purchases and transfer \$210,000.00 out of wedging and resurfacing to the new line. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ceann Bales – Randolph County United update

Ceann said I asked to be on the agenda, I am starting to go around and update the town boards and you as the County Council and the Commissioner's. I did the Commissioner's last month, I was at Farmland last night and will be at Union City next week and Saratoga this week. I am going to get you guys back on the schedule with the Commissioner's so I will be back next month. I am trying to do three every month and rotate that because there is nine. You have got some information in your packet, I also handed out some information. I want to start with our membership list, we have had great response with our membership and the chamber division is going very well and we are excited about that. About \$40,000.00 in income has come into that to fund the chamber division. I know that is going to continue to grow. We are getting good response, we had a great expo a few weeks ago, 498 people, I know Randolph Eastern said their kids were there with their Apache program and they actually got jobs from it. I know I talked to some other people that thought it was great networking just between the businesses that were there. I know we did a survey and got really good feed back from that so definitely something we are going to build on and continue to expand. The next step with the division is we are going to start doing workshops for the area businesses through the small business association, they will do that for us for free. Again, trying to help develop and build up our businesses. The next big event is happening and you all will be invited and complimentary tickets on June 26 we will have our first membership gala, I hope you will mark your calendar and bring someone and enjoy it. It is going to be out in the plaza and I hope you will come out and enjoy that. That is kind of a little update about the chamber division. Some other initiatives our office is working on. The workforce development coalition, it just kicked off, this is a regional effort through Blair Milo's office and we did go through all kind of hoops and hurdles to be a part of this, we did not have to but we chose to submit and be a part of this region. Basically, it's the concept that in our region and I think pretty much around the state is that it's not that we need more jobs we need more workers and we need more trained workers and skilled workers. That's the initiative from this. It's a 15-member coalition, all five superintendents are on that, a representative from Ivy Tech, we have Culy Contracting, Frank Miller Lumber, the YMCA as a not for profit and childcare and then Community Foundation is on that coalition. The goal is we

are trying as a region and then it breaks down into our county, we are trying to really tackle these three big goals of concerns. Tackle these concerns that projections that we are going to lose 15% of our population by 2050. There is adult education attainment, associates hire 28.77% compared to the state of 36% and that the medium household income for our region is \$45,622.00 compared to the state of \$54,000.00. Those are the concern points, that's why you can see on the handout I gave you that these are our goals. It might not seem like a lot but our goal is to get our decrease in population to net zero and that is a big deal because when it's 15% that's a big deal. I am excited about that, looking at with the Superintendents and the Colleges, how can we develop, can we bring more things here for associates degree, etc., etc. That's why we are involved in that and that's going to be a big initiative out of our office. The next thing I went ahead and copied all the information that the Commissioner's received on the towers, that may direct our technology committee made a recommendation yesterday to the Commissioner's to look at hiring Tower King. I know that David is involved in our technology committee and I think he will be talking about that, I'm assuming, an update, I think the Commissioner's wanted someone from here and someone from them. I think Gary Girton is going to serve on that and someone from the Council to interview and meet with Tower King based on our recommendation. I wanted you to have the packet that they got, to kind of be in the know. As you can see we asked them on the front page for the scope of work. Show you what they were asked to do and then you can see to build a 250-foot tower they are projecting it's \$230,500.00 to do that. Then they showed what the estimated recurring costs would be. We also interviewed Diamond Communications out of New Jersey, they do have a foot print here in Randolph County, they are very well known, but they were not interested in being part of the construction if they weren't owning it. It is kind of odd that a government entity would own the tower and build it versus a private entity. So, at this point they were not interested in working with us, so we were down to Tower King. Jim Byrd took this on and made numerous phone calls, trying to get people and this is the two we were down with. With that said I just wanted you to have information and the request from the Commissioner's was to have someone from the Council to serve on that committee. That is a big effort, broadband through our office and working on that we have a very strong technology committee, Joe Batt heads that up and runs it and he is phenomenal and we are pleased with how that is moving forward. The last big thing our office is working on is the Ball State initiative. It is really the Cultivating Community initiative that started in 2019. Our office hired Ball State in 2019 to really go out and engage in the Community and say what are your biggest concerns, what do you thing are the struggles facing Randolph County, what would you like to see at that time Economic Development to work on and the County to work on and the community came back with five initiatives. The initiatives are housing and blight, the drug epidemic, broadband, infrastructure, education and quality of life and we will be working off of that. The next phase, so those are the initiatives, all we have are initiatives and we got to put it to action, we got to come up with strategies, action plans, action steps to get this done. We are going to be working with Ball State, thanks to a grant through the Community Foundation, they are paying for all this work with the Ball State folks to create strategies for each priority and create immediate action both short term and long-term goals, they can seem daunting but we have to start somewhere and so they are going to come in and facilitate. We are putting out information, we sent out invites last week, part of the money through the Community Foundation is hiring a person to do some marketing and he is starting we are actually meeting with him after this meeting to help us promote it and try and let the community know what we are doing, try to keep the community informed, we are going to have

a separate face book, separate web page for this and as I am going around to each town board, I will be keeping them updated on these initiatives. The Randolph County United board did adopt those five as our goals to help lead. We have to start somewhere and we are going to do that by identifying those next steps with Ball State. That kicks off on May 20th from 8:30 to 12:00 at the fairgrounds. We would love for you to attend if you are able to, we will begin that work and again there are opportunities if people cannot come to those meetings, there is still opportunities to be engaged and be involved.

Dave said I know we have done several initiatives out of that Economic Development, 2019 where did that end up.

Ceann said it's this packet, that is what came out of it is those five goals and this data.

Dave said with Michael Hicks.

Ceann said yes, he kicked off the initiative but it was really through David Terrell and Brian Blackford were the two that really led this. He was the speaker that kicked it off. This is what has come out of that and so the next step it taking these five goals that were identified and coming up with action steps and strategies and goals and then committees to start tackling them.

Dave said we need to keep pushing forward, I have been on so many of those plans over the years and nothing ever gets accomplished.

Ceann said exactly. We had an intern this past summer go through all of them and compile them and the ironic thing is that they pretty much all align with this. I have been telling people there is no more planning, we have the plans, we know what we need to do the big goals, now we just have to figure out the steps to get there. This is really the next step, to make sure that this doesn't get filed on the shelf. If we don't do this next work with Ball State and with the Community Foundation, this will become just another plan on the shelf and so that is why I am thrilled that the Community Foundation is supporting us to do that.

Gary said the 15% population loss, we are not going to stop that. We can spend time looking at it, but it is something that we can't really stop.

Robin Vickery – Community Corrections budget

Robin said I am here to share that the state did approve the budget for the remaining six months and it is the same, there are no changes as far as the grant piece goes. They have approved \$109,350.00 for this six-month period and so basically what happens is that we are just mainly doubling, we are doubling what we had for the first six months. That basically remains the same. Then on project income, of course that is very different. We sat down and went over a lot of different figures trying to make sure that what we put in was actually what was necessary to be there and still be able to get through the next six months and we came up with a total of \$22,250.00 for our project income budget for the next six months.

Tom asked what is the current balance of that?

Robin said we have about \$54,000.00 in project income, we also have CTP funds right now and they are up to about \$9,000.00. We've got more money coming in that the state owes us, it is going through the process. I think there's about \$11,000.00 that will be in there this next month. All in all, when you put those together, we are making improvements. Our numbers are up from where they were, they were very low. We are seeing some changes that are happening with getting the referrals. Right now, we are doing the best we can do with the situation we have, we have really watched our spending and only doing what is necessary.

Gary asked is your budget secure?

Robin said yes.

Gary asked you can fund it through the year?

Robin said yes.

Gary asked personal services and all you are okay?

Robin said yes.

Dave asked Robin how many employees do you have now?

Robin said we have three full time employees.

Gary said on the ARP funds that are coming, is your loss revenue going to be part of the re-corrections?

Robin said I don't know.

Gary asked do you know Angela or Laura?

Angela said I do not.

Gary said when they do a survey of lost revenue because of Covid, why would Community Corrections not be included.

Laura said that would be a question for Baker Tilly.

Robin said I wondered about that, I think next year we are going to be fine. The concern is if those numbers don't continue to increase, what is the future.

Gary said with the jail doing the changes they did do to Covid, it effected your income and there are mechanisms to have that reimbursed through the American Recovery Plan I believe. I don't know for sure, I don't think anybody does yet.

Laura said I would think you are right, we just need to verify that.

Angela said Robin you still have \$35,000.00 appropriated in project income and your adding \$22,250.00 to that, is that correct?

Robin said yes.

Angela said that will take you pretty close to a zero balance in your project income. I just wanted to make sure that was in addition to what you already had budgeted.

Darin James – Coroner's vehicle replacement

Darin said the reason I am here I want to propose to replace the current Coroner's vehicle. I talked to Tom several times about it, he has pictures.

Tom said he shared the pictures some this morning.

Darin said there are quite a few issues with it, currently we have a 2004 Chevy Suburban, it's got 84,435 miles on it, that's not a lot of miles, I understand that, the body itself is in pretty bad shape, it's got quite a bit of rust, it's got some holes coming through it. It has trouble starting, it's a little bit slow, I thought I had that fixed and its not fixed so I'm going to take it back again and try to get it fixed, they're not sure what it is. It needs some brake work done, the headliner is falling down, the seat needs replaced, its down to the actual bar. Obviously, the body work, I'm not sure exactly how much it is going to cost to repair it. Tom asked me to go out and get some numbers. I chose a pickup truck, it is something that would be more popular these days.

Gary said what you have now there is no separation between you and the deceased.

Darin said no, there is no separation.

Gary said I am not sure that this couldn't be included in the ARP funds too or reimbursed at least.

Darin said Wayne County just went with a pickup truck as well for that very same reason, there is no separation. They had a van also. There are several diseases out there and now we have Covid, these bags that we put the deceased in are not sealed, you can't buy completely sealed bags. That is one reason I went with the pickup style vehicle. There were several vehicles, you have all the packets.

Gary said the cot you were looking at; will that transfer from vehicle to vehicle and not destroy the bed. If we wanted to every two years keep up the Coroner's vehicle?

Darin said yes. The cot situation is a problem. Nine times out of ten I work alone. We have to have a cot that the wheels come up on their own or they fold up on their own. The cot I have now the wheels fold up on their own. It's about 15-years old, it was an old EMS cot, it still functions, it does need some work done to it. But I priced a new striker power cot, the wheels fold up on their own and yes it can transfer from vehicle to vehicle.

Gary said the question was, the fact that it is bolted down into the new vehicle, how bad will that hurt the trade in value of that vehicle in two years, is it going to be a significant impairment to it?

Darin said my thought was, in the quotes there is a roll out tray that gets placed in the back of a truck, that mount can be mounted to a roll out tray. There are other options for cots but the problem is the load height of a pickup truck compared to a mini van or suburban. Striker is the highest load height of 36 inches. Inferno is another cot that the county uses, that's what I have now and it's 27 inches. Basically, you have to lift it up onto the vehicle about 7 inches and you have to push it in manually to load it. Sometimes it hangs up.

Gary said do these quotes do away with having to lift them?

Darin said that cot that I have priced, you have to hold the ends still, but the legs themselves fold up battery operated. They do make a system that you don't do any lifting, but the system and the cot itself is \$33,000.00. I know Randolph County EMS has got one that they are going to be installing in their next ambulance. Winchester Fire has them, but they are very expensive. There are mortuary cots that I have looked at, that are quite a bit cheaper but a mortuary cot is not secure. They set in holes, if you would wreck, that body is not secure in the back of a truck and you could potentially go from an open view funeral to a not open view funeral and I don't want to be responsible for that.

Gary said you gave us information for \$54,585.00 and you are set for the next several years.

Darin said with that truck and everything it should last you I would say at least 15 years.

Gary said the reason I was asking about the truck is because we have updated trucks for departments in two years' time for good trade in values as long as they exist, so if we didn't not destroy the bed but alter the bed to the point it has no trade in value then we just keep this.

Darin said the roll out rail I was talking about mounts I think to the hooks that come with the truck, so that wouldn't alter the bed, but if you were to mount that strictly to the bed then yes it might alter that. The price I got the \$54,585.00 was the cheapest vehicle I found which was a good buy.

Gary said the Sam Pierce one?

Darin said that is including a new cot, it's a brand-new cot, installation and the mounting brackets was the \$18,946.00 and then the truck cap and the cargo glide was \$4,839.00, emergency light allowance, I allowed \$1500.00, I don't know that it's going to cost that much and then lettering, I went with \$1000.00. The other one was the vehicle, the difference between the two is a refurbished cot and refurbished I mean it has a new motor put on, it has new hydraulic lines, it's got new batteries, a new charger.

Gary said what is the downfall between using a refurbished cot and a new cot? Can anyone even know the difference?

Darin said I don't think so. The cot mount too is separate, it's \$1000.00 for the cot mount and the only thing I don't have for this bid here is someone to install that cot mount, I'm not sure who does that around here.

Gary asked on both of these you would have to have the cot mount installed or just the refurbished?

Darin said just on the refurbished. The new cot was installed by a company here in Indiana, around Indianapolis.

Tom said definitely something we are going to have to do. The vehicle needs replaced. One thing in one of our conversations is this is a 2021 truck, at this price this is something we are going to have to act on because of the availability. My guess is it will go up a few thousand dollars if we had to get a 2022 model and this is a truck that is available right now.

Darin said all the prices on all the vehicles, they were all available.

Tom said otherwise it would be a couple of months?

Darin said 17 weeks. That's the minimum time, they are having trouble getting vehicles, is what they are telling me. This specific type of vehicle has to be a long bed and there are not too many long beds out there anymore. Short bed will not work for us, it has to be a long bed.

Dave said I am definitely for it. I'm leaning toward the new transport cot because they assume the liability.

Darin said he said with the truck, he has done it before, they reinforce the bottom if they go through the truck bed instead of the cargo. If that is the case then the cargo tray can be eliminated from this price, which was \$1511.00 can be taken off. If he installs it, he wants to install it on the truck bed and put reinforcements underneath.

Dave said that is the way I would lean.

Missy said what is the cot that you don't have to do anything and basically goes up and down on its own which alleviates, I could just see somebody hurting their back.

Darin said that is the big thing why striker came out with what they did was it's to alleviate back injury, workman's comp. This cot here, does go up and down on its own, its battery operated, it's a hydraulic system. They also have a system that goes with this cot that it hooks in basically you push it up and it hooks in, you don't do anything but push the button and then it also drags it on into the truck but that system and the cot itself is \$33,000.00 compared to the \$18,946.00. I have not been able to find a used system like one of them, I'm sure they are out there but I can't find one.

Missy said I am definitely in favor of replacing this truck and doing what you need to do, I know its extra money to do that other one but there have been people that have been injured.

Darin said sure, I worked EMS for quite some time and my back is not the greatest.

Gary asked what are you doing with the old suburban?

Darin said I don't know, as far as trading it in, there are no seats in it. I have one of the seats that I took out, when I first got the suburban the cot was in it and it was just sitting there, it went back and forth, there was no cot mount. I was able to get a cot mount off of Winchester Fire Department, they donated it to me, it was just laying around. I actually built a floor into that vehicle and mounted the cot so it wouldn't move, so I had to take one of the seats out. I have that seat still.

Gary said what do you do with it, where do you put it?

Darin asked would I be able to keep it for a backup truck?

Gary said I would.

Darin said I have deputies that work for me and a lot of the time I keep the vehicle with me because I take the majority of the calls.

Gary said that sounds reasonable.

Darin said I would like to keep it for a backup truck.

Gary said I am for doing it for the \$54,000.00. Eight years ago, we went through this and it's time to put the right face out.

Darin said I think its going to look nice.

Gary said is it white?

Darin said this one is black. I prefer black.

Gary said the funding opportunities on this right now there's in the neighborhood of \$200,000.00 in cares funding left?

Angela said depending on what you do with the \$40,000.00 today.

Gary said the \$40,000.00 has been recommended by the Commissioner's. Is there any other discussion?

Tom said my point of discussion would be the difference between the cots. You're a big guy, if our next Coroner is smaller or a slight person, would this cot still work for somebody like that. Even though this is a fully automatic.

Darin said any cot you go with is going to be between 90 to 130 pounds empty, you put a body on it, depending on the size. But as far as anybody handling it, there's women that work EMS, light framed employees, they can use that cot fine. I think eventually if that loading system ever comes down in price, that is something that can be done and something to look into but right now they are very expensive and I get it.

Tom made a motion to spend \$54,585.00 from Cares Act funds for the purchase of a new Coroner's vehicle and cot system. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Darin said this is new to me, I don't know?

Gary said see the Auditor's office about the next step.

Other Business:

Report from Commissioners

Gary Girton said yesterday Meeks opened the bids for our Health Insurance plan, those were turned over to the Insurance committee for a recommendation to the Commissioner's. July 1st is the renewal date, so sometime prior to that we have to decide on what we are going to do. We also had the first reading of an ordinance to permit UTV's on county roads. We did strike golf carts and snowmobiles. That process was just the first reading, we will have a second reading at our next meeting and see if there are any further discussions from people in the community. We provided some funding to the Children's advocacy program, we provided \$30,000.00 and the way it looks, this will be picked up by the state in the future. To get this program up and started.

Gary said what is the separation between that program and the one we currently fund through Circuit Court?

Laura said this is they do interviews and such when child abuse is first reported. Deb doesn't get the kids until there is actually court action.

Gary said we are only one of two counties in Indiana that has not had an advocacy center.

Gary ask did she mention by chance how all the other agencies are funded?

Gary said they are funded by the state basically, the reason her program is not, she was told that there was not funding set aside for a new program to be established. You heard Mike Haffner's presentation on the windfarm roads. Hopefully they can get something started by the first of July, I know there is a lot of turbines having blades replaced.

Max asked did the people indicate how soon they would be removing the old blades? I haven't seen any of them go out yet.

Gary said no, I haven't heard that, I had the same question. I drove that area again, I drove all of the Windfarm II roads over the weekend and the Solar farm roads and there are quite a few blades there and I don't know if it takes as long to mover them out as it took to move them in it

will take a while. I don't know if there is any salvage value to them or if they are going to cut them or move them that way or what.

Max said my major concern is that you about have to wait until they are gone before you can repair the roads.

Gary said there is not any weight to those. I was told the individual blades weigh less than 40,000 pounds.

Mike Haffner said all the new replacement blades have been delivered, they're in the process of hauling all the old blades to Arizona, they have a lot there, so they are going to be hauling them intact.

Missy said he wants to know when they will start moving those old blades.

Mike Haffner said they are in the process of transportation now, the new blades have already been delivered, I was told the trucking company was taking out the old blades pretty much immediately and then they're hoping to be completely done by July 1st and that is removing all the radiuses and everything. They do have four cranes installing the new blades. They are hoping basically within three weeks to most of this stuff done and then concentrate on hooking things up and getting radiuses out.

Gary said what is the weight to one of those blades?

Mike Haffner said I heard the same thing, they are not that heavy.

Gary said how many are out there?

Mike Haffner said I don't have that number.

Gary Girton said I would guess 30 plus.

Gary asked what else?

Gary Girton said the electric on the South PST tower has been approved by the Commissioner's and the money funded, it is just a matter of getting it put in. The microwave licensing is at a standstill, the FCC is not going to permit that as of right now. They put a hold on that as near as I understand back in October sometime. If we have to do something else, the equipment that we have purchased right now and paid for is of no value to us.

Gary asked why wouldn't they give it to us?

Gary Girton said both of our Senator's have talked to them and tried to get them to move forward. Other counties have the same issue, they are like everybody else, the FCC just shut it off. That banding was set aside back in 2000 something for public service towers but now from what I understand with broadband coming about and all this other the FCC put a stay on it. I was

told that in this area it was not an issue, they should provide it at least to us because of the availability of it. It is just an issue, it's a mess as far as I'm concerned and that is what's holding up the completion of it because there may have to be some modifications on the towers and so on before they are erected. It's hard to get any answers. Mike talked to a couple of people and he is not getting any communication either. We are hopeful we can get something done. Personally, I don't want to spend anymore money because we were told this was going to work and it should have and now the FCC saying we can't use the equipment that we've already purchased. That's pretty much where we are at with the PST towers. Ceann gave you an update on the broadband and Dave and I are going to serve on that group, if you approve his appointment. He has done quite a bit on getting this put together, I think we are going in the right direction.

Dave said I do have one question Gary. Indiana just approved some funding for broadband for the state of Indiana and different counties. I didn't know if we could find out what that in tales. You guys are going to district meeting to night can you see if you can find out anything.

Laura said let me make a note.

Dave said I will try to do some research off the internet. We may want to try and tap into that if we can.

Minutes of 4-6-21

Missy made a motion to accept the minutes of 4-6.21. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ambulance funding

Gary said does anybody have any suggestions, I don't think we can do it out of general. We can't do it out of Cum cap. I think if we are going to fund it this year, it's down to windfarm.

Max said we have put it off and put it off, I think we need to do it this year.

Gary said I am thinking we could request it from windfarm and then if the ARP funding allows us to recover it, we could pay it back but I think we need to move forward.

Dave said I agree. I think we probably should bring it up again next meeting and have Diane and Duane here to tell us what their thoughts are and maybe if they could wait until we can find out what the ARP is allowable items. I am like Max, I think we need to do it this year.

Tom said I am in favor of going ahead and using windfarm and then if we can reimburse it, then reimburse.

Gary said any idea what the number is?

Angela said I don't remember.

Max said wouldn't it be in the minutes from last meeting?

Tom said \$192,247.00.

Max made a motion to approve spending \$192,247.00 from windfarm for the purchase of a new ambulance with the intent to reimburse windfarm from the ARP funds if allowed. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Budget schedule

Gary said August 23 and 24th is the budget hearing dates. Does anyone here have any issues with that? We need to lock that in if at all possible. Okay, August 23rd and 24th are the budget hearing days. July 20, 27th or August 10th are possible budget workshop days and those would be from 9am to noon.

Max said how many departments have indicated that they want this?

Angela said I would ask them to schedule this with the Auditor's office and it will be on a voluntary basis, if you would like to discuss with the Council. I have not put those feelers out yet. I know one.

Gary said what day of the week are these?

Angela said Tuesday's, I just through out Tuesday's since that is the day you usually meet.

Gary said I myself would like to get closer to the budget, like the 10th of August. Tentatively does anybody have any issues with the 10th of August for a budget workshop.

Angela said we can schedule 8am to noon or 9am to noon and then if we have more departments, are you able to come back in the afternoon.

Gary said yes, I can come back on that day. I don't want to go through hours and hours of what we are going to rehash in two weeks anyway.

Angela said do you want to set a time limit?

Gary said first of all we just a lot 8:30 to noon and see how many people jump on and then we can go from there.

Angela said August 10th from 8:30 to noon.

Gary asked does anyone have any more suggestions on that or input?

Missy said can we request them to bring information with them when they come? Like ambulance runs, a log for a month or two months or three months so we can see what we are talking about and inventory on all vehicles.

Angela said I will send out the initial email and then whoever responds I will give you a preliminary schedule and if at that point you see EMS is on there, any information you would like them to bring you could ask them for.

Missy said because I haven't seen those logs, so I would need it.

Angela said I will get those initial emails sent out today or tomorrow.

Winchester Community Library appointment

Gary said this is a reappointment of Doug Baker to the Winchester Community Library board for a 4-year term.

Dave made a motion to reappoint Doug Baker. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Nelson Systems – Communications system funding

Gary said Commissioner's recommended funding this from Cares Act. This is regarding recording phone calls for the 911 center. My understanding is what comes in on the 911 lines is recorded what is coming in on the admin lines is not. Is that a fair assumption of what is going on?

Laura said that is my understanding.

Bev made a motion to approve the funding of the Nelson Systems recording system out of the Cares Act funds. Rick seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2021-05 Salary Ordinance Amendment

Gary said this Salary Ordinance amendment is for the IT/GIS position. So, everybody is up to speed, the candidate is going to do both. So, do we need to approve the secondary position then?

Laura said no. It is what it was before. This is the salary ordinance amendment to cover the salary.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-05
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-15
AMENDING RANDOLPH COUNTY'S CUM. CAP. DEV. AND AUDITOR'S PLATBOOK BUDGETS

WHEREAS: There have been changes in the 2021 Salary Ordinance with regard to the Randolph County's Cum. Cap. Dev. and Auditor's Platbook Budgets. It is necessary to amend the 2021 Salary Ordinance and to change the following salaries to the Salary Ordinance effective May 7, 2021 pay date as follows:

CUM. CAP. DEV.
IT ADMINISTRATOR
1961.54 PER PAY

AUDITOR'S PLATBOOK
GIS COORDINATOR
346.16 PER PAY

IT IS THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY INDIANA THAT:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 2020-15, 2021 Salary Ordinance pertaining to Randolph County's CUM. CAP. DEV. BUDGET and AUDITOR'S PLATBOOK shall be amended to read as follows:

CUM. CAP. DEV.
IT ADMINISTRATOR
1961.54 PER PAY

AUDITOR'S PLATBOOK
GIS COORDINATOR
346.16 PER PAY

Max made a motion for Council to adopt Ordinance 2021-05. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Max made a motion to suspend the rules and have the second and third reading by title only and adopt the same day. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Max made a motion for Council to adopt Ordinance 2021-05. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Missy asked Laura when will he start?

Laura said May 17th.

Gary said before we move on. Everybody got an email from Fred?

Max said yes.

Gary asked does anybody want to discuss the email?

Max said yes, I think we should discuss it. I don't know personally that I agree with retroactive back to the first of the year but I do know that, that position has been underpaid and that he has done a fine job. Perhaps we can consider the difference between what we have approved for the new position and what he is currently making from the time he announced his retirement until he leaves.

Gary said you are talking about May 19th until he leaves?

Max said right. Just something to discuss.

Dave said I would think that would be a good gesture on our part.

Tom asked your saying increase his pay beginning May 19th?

Laura said May 17th is when the new person starts.

Gary said yes, May 17th until his final day. That will also include his vacations, his payouts.

Tom said when would it start?

Laura said May 17th.

Gary said as a discussion, I am not really totally on board with that because of setting a precedence across Randolph County. But if the Council chooses to go that route, I would add the consideration that it not be forwarded to payouts. It would be from May 17th until his final day.

Meeks said payouts are based on the final pay. You would have to pay it out or lower the pay.

Gary said you could make it a bonus and not include payouts in the end.

Meeks said I think a cash bonus is a worse precedence. Than just raising the pay to the new person's amount.

Gary said I am not in favor either way, I just wanted to get away from the precedence.

Meeks said he is going to be working side by side with this person.

Rick said I think we are opening up a can of worms. I don't disagree with the hard work and everything he has put in and his value. But I think this is a dangerous precedence.

Bev said I am having problems with it too. I am where Rick is at on this.

Missy said I agree with Rick, I really want to reward somebody for all their years of service but where do you stop. He has been a valuable employee, he has worked for way under what he should have been paid for the skill level he had but where do we start and where do we stop.

Gary said we should take an up and down vote on whether to act on it. If there is a decision to act upon the email, which I don't have here to read out loud but basically the IT Coordinator has requested his pay be retroactive back to January 1, 2021 at the new salary. Does anyone want to make a motion?

Max said before we move forward, I have a question for our attorney? Do we have any exposure as far as discrimination?

Meeks said no.

Tom said the salary ordinance that we just passed today and raise that position to that salary, should that go to him starting today? Since we changed that position to that pay today.

Meeks said that would be where I am coming from, if you are going to have a person in that position getting that pay, it would make sense that he would have that pay.

Rick said that would make sense, but the request to go back to January 1st I just can't get on board with.

Gary said that is what Max was saying.

Meeks said isn't the salary ordinance written for the position?

Rick said it says effective May 7th.

Meeks said so, that position is getting paid out of that. I think it is already and automatic that both the current and new employee in that position would make that amount.

Gary said there is no vote, it is automatic.

Rick said I was just going based on the content of the email to go back retroactive to January 1st, I just couldn't get on board with that.

Meeks said the salary ordinance is for the IT Administrator and the GIS Coordinator, he is still both and a person in that class would receive this pay.

Gary said there is just going to be one person.

Meeks said as long as he is still employed until July 1st, he is going to be in that position along with the new guy that was hired into that position. It is like having two second deputies, you are going to have two IT/GIS Administrator's.

Gary said during the time the second person is here. We have a standing approval from the Council to add the second position for GIS.

Meeks said yes, but they just haven't added it. It is like having a twentieth person at the Highway Department that they didn't add.

Gary said my only issue with this discussion is that can't be brought back to us later and say you approve that the Council in April.

Meeks said they would have to come to you with a salary ordinance and then you would have to approve the salary ordinance.

Gary said which we would stop it right then and there. Okay, I'm with you.

Rick said the way I was understanding the email was, he wanted make the \$60,000.00 salary amount retroactive to January 1st, which would make it like a bonus.

Gary said where we are right now is somebody can make a motion to not do that per the request and just go with we have already passed the salary ordinance which takes care of it between here and the there.

Tom made a motion to not approve the formal request for retroactive pay. Missy seconded. 6 aye votes. Max voted nay. Motion carried 6 to 1.

Area Planning/BZA attendance

Gary said we received a report on Area Planning/BZA attendance.

Taylorred System change order funding

Gary asked Laura to explain the Taylorred System change order.

Laura said with the new phone system we automatically got three party conferencing, the courts need six party conferencing for each court which puts us to an upgrade to twelve users. The cost of that would be \$36 per month on our bill to upgrade and my understanding is they have to have it because they do a lot of phone conferencing. Also, the other change is headsets, some of the departments had cordless phones that they could carry around with them in their departments. I know the courts have that, I'm not sure who all has that but there are now cordless phones that we can purchase with this system, there are wireless phones but since we don't wireless internet they would not work with it. The option would be for them to buy headsets to where and answer their phone by the headset. The headsets would be purchases through their office supply budgets but there is a hook up adapter that goes to the phones to make those headsets work and those are \$41.25 per phone and for 5 to 10 of those they give us a total of \$336.00. The Commissioner's approved this change order and recommended paying for those from Cares Act funds.

Max made a motion to approve the Taylorred System change order request to be paid for from Cares Act funds. Rick seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Court Security Committee Appointment

Laura said I sent an email out to everybody that the courts provided and they are requesting someone from Commissioner's and someone from Council be appointed to that committee. Mike Wickersham was appointed yesterday by the Commissioners.

Gary said would someone like to volunteer for that appointment?

Bev said what would that be for?

Gary said Courthouse security.

Meeks said the new judge is very concerned with Courthouse security and so he is forming a committee.

Dave made a motion to appoint Bev Fields to the Courthouse security committee. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Additional Appropriations:

Statewide 911 Fund

Spillman CAD Geovalidation module	\$20,557.16
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Max made a motion to approve the Statewide 911 additional appropriation. Rick seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Cum Cap

EMS Ambulance repair	\$8765.00
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Tom made a motion to approve the additional appropriation from Cum Cap. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Windfarm

SJCA Task order #8	\$215,170.00
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Vision Corner	\$150,000.00
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Dave made a motion to approve the additional appropriations from Windfarm. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave Lenkensdofer

Dave said in the past have been an advocate on the windfarm monies, trying to dedicate 75% of that to infrastructure needs of Randolph County. We just found out last month that we have about \$24 million in bridges that are going to have to be upgraded over the next 8 or 10-years. We've got road needs. Drainage there is probably needs, upgrades also and rainy day \$1.7 million, I feel like we need to add to yet, to bring that up to the \$3 million cap. It is my recommendation is to dedicate 75% of the windfarm monies to these projects and then the balance of 25% to special projects as needed. I think it is time we probably let Randolph County use this money. The original intent I believe going way back on the windfarm monies and this would also include solar monies was to improve infrastructures in Randolph County and so I think its time that we maybe make a dedication and a recommendation to the County Commissioner's that we move forward on this.

Tom said I really think we need to prop up rainy day. Rainy day is an account that it is hard to put anything in anymore. I would like to see it propped up so when were done we are financially sound.

Gary said we often use it for bridge funding so it's not really available to us because it is being leveraged.

Max said I think it's a good idea.

Rick said I think the initial intent going back to what Dave said back when we first started was to help with the infrastructure of the county. I don't have a problem at all with it.

Bev said I agree with that as well, I think infrastructure is totally important. I think 75% is a good number.

Dave made a motion to dedicate 75% of renewable energy funding to infrastructure and 25% to special projects after getting rainy day built to \$3 million. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Rick Brown

Rick said I am not pointing this to anybody in particular because I can give examples during my past years on the council. Is it possible that when people come before us that we get information in advance? I am not picking on anyone in particular but there are many examples of us getting information either the night before or the day of, getting information we need to act on. Don't get me wrong we get it taken care of but if we know when the department heads need to come before us, there are times we get the day of here is how much I need. I don't know if there is something we can do policy wise to say department heads if you want to come before us we need information in advance.

Gary said the choice of the Council is that if it is not time sensitive, we can table it and maybe we should start tabling things.

Rick said some things are and some things aren't.

Gary said I agree.

Meeks said we used to have it Rick where like the Tuesday before the meeting.

Laura said I want to know by Wednesday prior to the meeting because I try to send everything out to Commissioner's and Council on Thursday.

Meeks said it used to be a policy of Tuesday or Wednesday.

Laura said if they have everything to me by Wednesday then I can get it to you by Thursday.

Gary said we just need to say hey everybody, give advanced warning or you may be tabled.

Dave said I agree with your Rick, anything to do with dollars, we should have at least a week or 10 days before plus special projects should be vetted before they come to us so we know where it stands.

Missy said I would like to see one more thing just for me, I would like to see an inventory list and future needs, when do you think you are going to need to replace these police cars, ambulances, dump trucks.

Art Moystner, Sheriff

Art said just keeping you up to speed with the tasers and body cameras that we are looking at, we did get the test kits for the tasers and body camera's, it's a great system, I think this is definitely the direction we need to go. You can ask the Mayor of Winchester, those officers just switched to the Axon body cam, so they've got the system up and running. It's a really good system, there is some information that came out from the Indiana Association of Counties that there is about \$30 million that has been earmarked for body cameras. I think the state is going to keep about \$20 million of that for themselves, there is going to be \$10 million that the rest of us get to fight for. I would like to slow down and see what kind of funding is there and see what that looks like, I think that is something that we need to put in place this year at some point but I would like to get as much funding from other sources as I can. I sent out an email to everyone in regards to that, I hadn't received anything back so I wanted to make sure you all had that information. I want to keep working with Axon to build off of that to see where were at depending on what kind of funding comes out of these grants maybe we can load that front end heavy for money and pay out of that and lower some stuff down the road for us to have in a contract type form. I do have a test kit if anybody is interested in seeing any of it come over. I think this is something we need to do but I kind of want to wait and see where these grants go and see what we can get, I don't think it will pay for the whole thing but I think there is some funding there.

Bob McCoy said 25%.

Art said is that what the grant is going to be?

Gary said 25% of the total cost or 25% match?

Bob said I think it is 25% of the total cost. Like Art said it's sketchy, the information but I think it's managed through the state police.

Art said I think so, I'm still trying to get information through the Indiana Sheriff's Association, how we can get our hands on the money. Even if it's 25% if we can get that paid that first year and then we can take that other 75% and spread it over 5-years if you would like so we can set something in place and I'd like to do both the in-car camera's and the body camera's if they will give us the money for it. Do you have any questions for me?

Gary said no.

Art said other than that things are going well at the Sheriff's Department, we are keeping our numbers below 60. We'll see how long that holds.

Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)

Ceann said is Dave is going to serve on the committee to look at Tower King?

Gary said Dave do you want to serve on the committee?

Missy made a motion to appoint Dave to the committee to look at Tower King. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Bob McCoy said define infrastructure. Because look at what is going on with the money that is coming from the Federal Government, sewers, water, broadband, internet but yet we are still waiting because what exactly are they going to fund as far as sewers and water infrastructure, I guess if you are looking at allocating 75% when you put that on paper, should that actually define infrastructure. What if somebody says, what about sidewalks? Isn't that infrastructure?

Gary said it is actually.

Bob said streets roads, what I'm saying is, I think there needs to be something on paper to tell you if somebody does have a request for an infrastructure need, you can say no that's not infrastructure.

Max said tighter than what Mr. Biden's plan is?

Bob said yes.

Dave said what I mentioned is for roads, bridges, drainage and increasing the rainy-day fund from \$1.3 million to \$3 million and that's it.

Bob said that makes perfect sense. So that's basically where you're at as to what you are calling infrastructure?

Dave said yes.

Gary said it is not the true definition of infrastructure, it is much broader than that.

Dave said everything else can fall within that 25%.

Bob said are you guys currently working on your wish list with the \$4.7 million the county is receiving.

Rick said somewhat, we ask about the ambulance and other vehicles could be purchased out of that if we got them. We have a little bit.

Bob said Dayton Ohio was actually asking their citizens to call in with suggestions because they didn't know where they could spend all that money.

Gary said we are still waiting on clarification.

Dave Lenkensdofer- state called county council

Dave said the state called county council meeting is June 26th.

Gary asked in person?


Dave said in person, in Hendricks County, they don't have the location identified yet.


Adjournment


Rick made a motion to adjourn. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

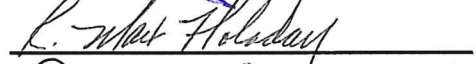
Reviewed and accepted this 8 day of May, 2021.


RANDOLPH COUNTY COUNCIL











ATTESTED: 

Laura J Martin, Auditor