

REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Bridgett Burkhart, Highway Superintendent; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Andy Boxberger, Carson LLP; Dave Hacker, Highway Operations Foreman; Auditor Jill Landrum; Bob Jeffers, EMA Director; Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director; Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director; Katie Shomo; Kathy Cron; Alan Bowers; Ilene Haluska, Indiana Plain Dealer; Don Freiburger; Mike Thompson; Terry Miller, County Council; Marilyn Bradford; Mark Wickersham; Jesse Perez; Erin Wiley, Drug Court Coordinator/ Probation Officer; Greg Ricker, Facilities Manager; Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director; Tim Drayer; Chris Geiger;

The meeting was live streamed via YouTube.

Commissioner Miller called the March 24, 2025, Commissioner Meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)

3/10/2025

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 10, 2025, meeting. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

3/26/2025

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for March 26, 2025. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)

3/21/2025

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for March 21, 2025. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Director of Community Engagement

Katie Shomo is the new Director of Community Engagement for Huntington County Bowen Health Center. She came in and gave a brief introduction of herself to the Commissioners.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Bippus Tornado Siren

Bob Jeffers, EMA Director and Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director discussed the Bippus Tornado Siren, which was found to be nonfunctional during the state-wide drill on March 11, 2025. The siren has since been repaired and is now operational, thanks to Heartland REMC, which removed and reinstalled it at no cost.

Deputy Director, Fuller suggested acquiring a new siren to replace the outdated Bippus Siren. EMA has funds available to purchase the new siren, which, along with installation, will cost \$13,774.00. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the purchase of the new Bippus Tornado Siren. Tom Wall seconded, the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Facilities Updates

Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager asked the Commissioners whether an ordinance should be drafted to prohibit bikes and scooters on the sidewalks in Victory Noll for safety reasons. Terry Stoffel suggested contacting the police to handle the issue for now, as it currently involves only one individual. Phil Hibbert gave some general updates about Sacred Heart renovation and the use of the County's gator UTV for Huntington Heritage Days. Phil also discussed a request that was made by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to have specific lighting at the courthouse in honor of Paul Revere. They are trying to find a way to accommodate the request.

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IN THE MATTER OF INVOICE)

Cumulative Courthouse Funds

Terry Stoffel made a motion to pay invoice the OTIS Elevator invoice #CFW15998001 in the amount of \$4,042.50 from Cumulative Courthouse funds. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION)

Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Commissioners, along with City of Huntington Mayor Richard Strick, issued a joint proclamation making April 2025 National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Huntington County, Indiana. This proclamation stresses the importance of protecting children by preventing child abuse before it occurs and urges all residents to help improve the quality of life of children and families.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Drainage Issue

Chris Geiger requested financial assistance to install new drainage tile to address flooding issues in a 10-acre field that floods during heavy rain. The proposed tile installation will cross County Road 600E, and he asked the county to help cover the cost of the road crossing installation and materials.

After discussing with Dave Hacker, Highway Operations Foreman, resolving the drainage issue will help keep the water off the road. The Commissioners agreed. Terry Stoffel made a motion to cover the cost and installation associated with this repair. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Sortera Technology update

Mark Wickersham, Director of Huntington County United Economic Development (HCUED), gave an update about Sortera Technology \$15 million dollar investment in the Markle area.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Ricoh Order Agreement

Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director presented the Ricoh Order Agreement / Lease Agreement. Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Ricoh Agreement. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

W 800 N between N 950 W and N 911 W

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit for Duke Energy in the location of CR W 800 North between N 950 West and N 911 West. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

1100 N between N 1000 W and IN-105

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit for Duke Energy in the location of CR 1100 North between N 1000 West and IN-105. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

1100 N between Roanoke Rd and US 24

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit for Nipsco in the location of CR 1100 North between Roanoke Rd and US 24. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

Market St between N 894 W and N 886 W

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit for Duke Energy in the location of CR Market St between N 894 West and N 886 West. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

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IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)

4565 & 4539 E. Station Rd. Roanoke

The following people were present for the Public Hearing for the property located at 4565 & 4539 E. Station Road Roanoke, Indiana: Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Rob Miller; Andy Boxberger, Carson LLP, County Attorney; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Auditor Jill Landrum; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Bridgett Burkhart, Highway Superintendent; Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager; Katie Shomo; Kathy Cron; Alan Bowers; Ilene Haluska,

Indiana Plain Dealer; Don Freiburger; Mike Thompson; Terry Miller, County Council; Marilyn Bradford; Mark Wickersham; Jesse Perez; Greg Ricker, Facilities Manager

The Public Hearing was opened at 9:45 a.m.

Facilities Manager Greg Ricker provided an overview of the complaint and the unsafe order affecting both properties. He noted that the county had sent a letter a few months ago regarding an inspection, but no one was present when officials arrived. Commissioner Stoffel expressed frustration that the owner had employees waiting for him.

Property owner Jesse Perez stated that modifications made by a neighboring property owner had caused issues, leading to water runoff and septic problems on his land. He emphasized that he cannot move forward with any plans until a septic system is installed on the properties.

The Public Hearing was closed at 10:02 a.m.

The Commissioners agreed to give Jesse Perez two weeks to come back with an action plan. Mr. Perez must also allow county representatives to perform interior inspections of the properties.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

IOCS Pretrial Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Executive Director, presented the IOCS CY26 Pretrial Grant Application in the amount of \$490,338.19 for approval. The Commissioners requested a monthly report on the success of these grants. Tom Wall made a motion to approve this grant application. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

CY26 IDOC Community Corrections Community Supervision Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Executive Director, presented the CY26 IDOC Community Corrections Community Supervision Grant Application in the amount of \$483,136.66 for approval. The Commissioners requested a monthly report on the success of these grants. Tom Wall made a motion to approve this grant application. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

CY26 IDOC Residential Work Release Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, presented the CY26 IDOC Residential Work Release Grant Application in the amount of \$1,192,612.98 for approval. The Commissioners requested a monthly report on the success of these grants. Tom Wall made a motion to approve this grant application. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

FY26 IDOC Drug Court Grant Application

Erin Wiley, Drug Court Coordinator/ Probation Officer, presented the FY26 IDOC Drug Court Grant Application in the amount of \$189,001.00 for approval. The Commissioners requested a monthly report on the success of this grant. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve this grant application. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

HIPPA Roster Agreement

Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director, presented the annual HIPPA Roster agreement provided by UGS to the commissioners for signature as there were not changes to be made since 2024.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Surplus inventory

The Highway Department requested to have two pipes that were previously used in a project on Division Road deemed as surplus inventory so they can be disposed of. Terry Stoffel made a motion to deem these pipes as surplus inventory and either sell or scrap the pipes, depending on which option is more fiscally beneficial. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Unofficial Detour – State Road 124

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Letter of Understanding/Unofficial Detour with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding Bridge Deck Overlay on SR 124 over I-69. The unofficial detour will be CR 200 East to CR 800 South to SR 5 and CR 200 to CR 400 South to SR 3. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Clerk of the Circuit Court Report

Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager, presented the Clerk of the Circuit Court Report for the month ending February 28, 2025, as prepared by Shelley Septer, Clerk of Huntington Circuit/Superior Courts

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Treasurer's Report

Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager, presented the County Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2025, as prepared by Brenda Hamilton, County Treasurer.

IN THE MATTER OF BIDS)

2025 Fuel Bids

The Commissioners received and opened sealed bids for the 2025 Annual Fuel Contracts. The following people were in attendance for the bid opening: Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Bridgett Burkhardt, Highway Superintendent; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Andy Boxberger, Carson LLP; Dave Hacker, Highway Operations Foreman; Auditor Jill Landrum; Katie Shomo; Mike Thompson; Terry Miller, County Council; Ilene Haluska, Indiana Plain Dealer; Bruce Richman, Keystone; Timothy Drayer, National Oil

Sunoco

Unleaded:	\$2.0999 (without taxes)
Diesel:	\$2.3474 (without taxes)
Winter blend:	\$2.3774 (without taxes)

Keystone

Unleaded:	\$2.1360 (without taxes)
Diesel:	\$2.2680 (without taxes)
Winter blend:	\$2.3380 (without taxes)

National Oil

Unleaded:	\$2.7300 (without taxes)
Diesel:	\$3.0300 (without taxes)
Winter blend:	\$3.0600 (without taxes)

Tom wall made a motion to take the bids under advisement. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

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HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025**

IN THE MATTER OF INVOICE)

Cumulative Courthouse Funds

Tom Wall made a motion to pay Young Electric Invoice in the amount of \$705.35 from Cumulative Courthouse funds. Terry Stoffel seconded, the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF BIDS)

2025 Fuel Bids

Tom Wall made a motion to award the bids for Unleaded, Diesel, and Winter Blend to Keystone with County Attorney Approval. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

Huntington Area Transportation (HAT) Pass-Through Agreement

Gretchen Lenfestey, Office Manager; presented the updated HAT Pass-Through Agreement to the commissioners. Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Agreement. Terry Stoffel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

TWN Lease

TWN requested an extension of the lease for property at 1350 S. Jefferson Street. The commissioners consented to the extension with an increase of \$500 a month in the rental fee.

IN THE MATTER OF RECESS)

Rob Miller made a motion to recess until the next meeting of the Huntington County Commissioners on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 vote.

**These Minutes were approved on Monday, April 7, 2025.
A signed physical copy of this document is available by
request in the Commissioners' Office located at 201 North
Jefferson Street. Huntington, Indiana**