REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Bridgett Burkhart, Highway Superintendent; Dave Hacker, Highway Operations Foreman; Auditor Jill Landrum; County Attorney, Andrew Boxberger, Carson LLP; Phil Hibbert, Director of County Facilities; Bob Jeffers, EMA Director; Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director; Marilyn Bradford; Hank Miller; Mike Thompson; Chris Parker; Jill Yount; Gail Garde; Alan Bowers; Marsha Poulson; Gregory Witkamp; Don Freiburger; Fred Wymer; Polly Wymer; Christina Gordon; Amy Voght; Donald Poulson; Mark Stephen; Tinisha Weighlt; Steve Kimmel, Huntington County Chamber of Commerce; Kim Hostetler, DCD Director

The meeting was live streamed via YouTube.

Commissioner Miller called September 8, 2025 Commissioner Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioner Tom Wall was absent.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES) 8/25/2025

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Minutes from the August 25, 2025, meeting. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

9/10/2025

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for August 27, 2025. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)

9/5/2025

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for August 22, 2025. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

1960'S Tornado Siren – Bippus

Bob Jeffers, EMA Director, and Thomas Fuller, EMA Deputy Director, provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the Bippus West tornado siren. They stated that a new siren has been installed, and they are requesting that the Commissioners deem the 1960's tornado siren as surplus inventory. Discussion was had regarding offering the siren to the Huntington County Museum for potential display. Terry Stoffel expressed a preference for donating the siren to a smaller town where it could still serve a functional purpose and help protect people. Terry Stoffel made a motion to deem the siren as surplus inventory. His motion included to first determine if surrounding towns could make use of the siren; if no interest is shown, then the siren could be scrapped. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PERMIT)

100 N

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Application for Permit for Sunshine Dairy LLC at 100 N, between CR 800 W and CR 600 W. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION) 2025-15

Terry Stoffel made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-15: A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Huntington County, Indiana designating an official to be responsible for electronic publication pursuant to IC 5-3-5. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Vending for Dispatch

Phil Hibbert, Director of County Facilities, has requested that the vending machine at Victory Noll be stocked with drinks and snacks for use by dispatch as well as others. As long as there is a system in place to track the money collected, the commissioners have no objections to getting the vending machine stocked.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Road Manual

Bridgett Burkhart, Highway Superintendent, presented a revision of the Huntington County Road Manual to the commissioners for their consideration. She stated that the attorney's office updated the legal references throughout manual. The other revision is that Huntington County Highway will no longer accept Low Volume Aggregate (gravel) roads into their inventory. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the updated Road Manual. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Christmas in the City

Steve Kimmel, Executive Director of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce, spoke with the Commissioners about Christmas in the City. The chamber requests the use of the courthouse rotunda on Saturday, November 29, 2025 for the children to visit with Santa and have their pictures taken. Frederick's Photography will once again be taking photos and families will be able to download the photos free of charge from their website. The Commissioners agreed by consensus to the use of the rotunda for this purpose.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Cyclical Reassessment Bid

Jill Zorger, Huntington County Assessor, presented dates for advertising the bid process for the Cyclical Reassessment Bid. She would like to advertise on 9/17/2025 and 10/1/2025 with a bid opening on 10/20/2025. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve these dates. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Matt Brinkman - New Position

Matt Brinkman, Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership gave a brief introduction to his new position.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Maple Solar

Commissioner Miller provided an update on several questions that have come up in recent weeks regarding Maple Solar. He noted that the FOIA (Access to Public Records Requests) are currently being handled by the IT Department, which is in the process of gathering the requested information. Some of the requests are extensive, but efforts are being made to respond in a timely manner.

Commissioner Miller also stated that the County will be reaching out to Ice Miller to determine whether there has been a significant change in the project's plans. As subject matter experts, Ice Miller will be able to provide guidance on the most appropriate course of action.

The public expressed more of their concerns to the Commissioners regarding the Maple Solar Project.

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IN THE MATTER OF BIDS)

Demolition - 8187 N 900 W Huntington

The Commissioners received and opened sealed bids for the demolition of the property 8187 N 900 W, Huntington. The following people were in attendance for the bid opening, Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Bridgett Burkhart, Highway Superintendent; Dave Hacker, Highway Operations Foreman; Auditor Jill Landrum; Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Phil Hibbert, Director of County Facilities; Don Freiburger; Alan Bowers

The first bid was submitted by Dirt in the amount of \$13,750.00. The second bid came from Zahm Excavating at \$16,250.00, and the third was from Amor Excavating, totaling \$12,830.00. All of the bids were taken under advisement, and if all conditions are met, the bid will be awarded to Amor Excavating who is the lowest bidder. Rob Miller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISUSSION)

Huntington Technical Rescue Team

Andrew Wust appeared before the Commissioners to request funding for a new rescue boat for the Huntington Technical Rescue Team. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve funding not to exceed \$6,500.00 from CEDIT – Project 6 for the purchase of the rescue boat. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Citizens Advisory Committee-Solid Waste

Commissioner Miller requested Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director, reach out to Mr. Garrett regarding the Bylaws for the Huntington County Solid Waste District, and pull the Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Committee requirements.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT)

Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Committee

Terry Stoffel made a motion to appoint Alan Bowers to the Huntington County Solid Waste Board as part of the Citizens Advisory Committee. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF RECESS)

Terry Stoffel made a motion to go into recess until Monday, September 22, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. Rob Miller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

These Minutes were approved on Monday, September 22, 2025. A signed physical copy of this document is available by request in the Commissioners' Office located at 201 North Jefferson Street. Huntington, Indiana