

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF HUNTINGTON COUNTY INDIANA  
FEBRUARY 27, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

The Huntington County Council met in regular session on the 27th day of February 2023, in the G.A.R. Room, at the Huntington County Courthouse, Huntington, Indiana, at 7:00 P.M. for considering all business brought before it pursuant to notice given to the Huntington Herald-Press on February 15, 2023.

Council Members Present: Kendall Mickley, Shane Bickel, Terry Miller, Keith Eller, Peyton Pike, John Stoeckley, and Brian Warpup.

Council President Kendall Mickley called the meeting to order. Keith Eller gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 1: President Kendall Mickley asked for approval of the County Council minutes from the January 23, 2023 meeting. Keith Eller made a motion to approve the minutes. John Stoeckley seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 2: Jan Williams, Treasurer for LACE, was unable to attend so Auditor Jill Landrum spoke on her behalf to request a Budget Appropriation of \$80,000 for Fund 1148 - Drug Free Community in budget line 1148.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contracts.

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Budget Appropriation. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 3: Auditor Landrum also spoke on behalf of Jan Williams, Director of Youth Services Bureau of Huntington County, to request a Budget Appropriation of \$15,000 for Fund 9663 - GAL/CASA Building Capacity grant budget line 9663.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contract.

Peyton Pike made a motion to approve the Budget Appropriation. Brian Warpup seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 4: Auditor Landrum also requested a Budget Appropriation of \$21,520 for Fund 9667 - GAL/CASA Matching Grant budget line 9667.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contract.

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Budget Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 5: Highway Superintendent Troy Hostetler requested an Additional Appropriation in Fund 1176 - Motor Vehicle Highway for the unbudgeted increases of the Highway Department Staff that were approved in 2022, to be paid from the following budget lines:

1176.11016.00000.0530	Operations Foreman	\$	5,800.00
1176.11101.00000.0530	Superintendent	\$	8,400.00
1176.11401.00000.0530	Secretary	\$	1,100.00
1176.11015.00000.0531	Foreman	\$	19,000.00
1176.11206.00000.0531	Signman	\$	6,500.00
1176.11310.00000.0531	Equip Operator III	\$	66,000.00
1176.11311.00000.0531	Equip Operator II	\$	20,000.00
1176.11109.00000.0533	Lead Mechanic	\$	6,400.00

TOTAL: \$ 133,200.00

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. John Stoeckley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- ITEM 6: Troy also requested an Additional Appropriation of \$1,225,000.00 in Fund 1176 - Motor Vehicle Highway to then transfer and allocate into the budget lines for Fund 1173 - Motor Vehicle Highway - RESTRICTED fund, as follows:

1176.27500.00000.0531	Materials	\$	350,000.00
1176.27510.00000.0531	Aggregates	\$	260,000.00
1176.27515.00000.0531	Asphalts	\$	500,000.00
1176.27520.00000.0531	Signs, Post, Guardrail	\$	50,000.00
1176.27525.00000.0531	Culverts & Pipe	\$	5,000.00
1176.37300.00000.0531	Rental Equipment	\$	60,000.00

TOTAL: \$ 1,225,000.00

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. Brian Warpup seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- ITEM 7: Troy also requested an Additional Appropriation of \$350,000.00 in Fund 1135 - Cumulative Bridge for budget line 1135.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contracts.

Brian Warpup made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- ITEM 8: Troy also requested Transfers of Appropriation in Fund 1176 - MVH, as follows:

FROM: 1176.11160.00000.0531 - Laborers	\$	5,000.00
TO: 1176.11124.00000.0531 - Seasonal Driver w/CDL (PT)	\$	5,000.00
FROM: 1176.35130.00000.0533 - Vehicle/Equip Repair	\$	818.00
TO: 1176.36050.00000.0533 - Garage/Serv Bldg	\$	818.00
FROM: 1176.37015.00000.0531 - Centerlining	\$	25,000.00
TO: 1176.27520.00000.0531 - Sign, Post, Guardrail	\$	25,000.00
FROM: 1176.21100.00000.0530 - Office Supplies	\$	500.00
1176.44100.00000.0530 - Equipment	\$	500.00
TO: 1176.33200.00000.0530 - Pub Legal Notices	\$	1,000.00

John Stoeckley made a motion to approve the Transfers of Appropriation. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- ITEM 9: Public Health Administrator Brian Trueblood requested a Transfer of Appropriation of \$500.00 from Fund 1159 Health budget line 1159.31100.00000.0610 - Contract Professionals to 1159.31110.00000.0610 - Non-Contract Professionals.

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- ITEM 10: Community Corrections Director Leslie Rentschler was unable to attend, so Alex Fritz, the Residential Supervisor, appeared to request a Transfer of Appropriation of \$3,000 from Fund 1122 - Project Income budget line 1122.21900.00000.9611 Drug Testing Supplies to 1122.21500.00000.9611 - Supplies.



Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Brian Warpup seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 11: Alex also requested an Additional Appropriation totaling \$8,218.12 for Fund 1122 - Project Income for the following budget lines:

1122.11000.00000.9610	Director	\$	1,291.69
1122.11005.00000.9610	Assistant Director	\$	990.39
1122.12100.00000.9610	Social Security	\$	66.68
1122.12200.00000.9610	Retirement	\$	131.08
1122.13020.00000.9610	Office Manager	\$	517.45
1122.21100.00000.9610	Office Supplies	\$	323.08
1122.32500.00000.9610	Travel Expenses	\$	92.43
1122.36200.00000.9610	Service Contracts	\$	4,805.32
TOTAL:			\$ 8,218.12

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 12: Alex also requested an Additional Appropriation totaling \$2,420.17 for Fund 9316 - Community Corrections for the following budget lines:

9316.13020.00000.9610	Office Manager	\$	133.55
9316.11108.00000.9610	Field Officer	\$	707.25
9316.11111.00000.9610	Coordinator	\$	711.38
9316.11515.00000.9610	Financial Data Analyst	\$	769.12
9316.21100.00000.9610	Office Supplies	\$	34.48
9316.32500.00000.9610	Travel Expenses	\$	64.39
TOTAL:			\$ 2,420.17

Peyton Pike made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. Brian Warpup seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 13: Alex also requested an Additional Appropriation of \$6,022.00 for Fund 8901 - ICJI Grant for budget line 8901.21900.00000.0000 - Drug Test Supplies.

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation. Keith Eller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 14: The Sheriff's 2023 Salary Contract was presented for Council's approval and signature by Council President.

Brian Warpup made a motion to approve the Salary Contract. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 15: Sheriff Chris Newton was unable to attend so Matron Tina Stevens appeared on his behalf to request a Transfer of Appropriation of \$9,000.00 from Fund 1233 - LIT Correctional budget line 1233.33520.00000.0380 - Meals to 1233.36200.00000.0380 - Service Contracts to pay Tek84 for the annual service of the body scanner.

Council members inquired about whether this service would be needed every year, or every few years. Tina is going to check into it further and get back with Council.

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Keith Eller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 16: Tina also requested a Transfer of Appropriation in the K-9 fund 4012, as follows:

FROM: 4012.36200.00000.0000 Service Contracts	\$	2,000.00
TO: 4012.31300.00000.0000 Training	\$	2,000.00

Brian Warpup made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. John Stoeckley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 17: Tina also presented a request for an Additional Appropriation of \$1,877.68 for Fund 9684 - 2023 LACE Grant - Sheriff for budget line 9684.44100.00000.0000 - Equipment.

Council members inquired about what type of Equipment they were planning to purchase with the money awarded by LACE. Tina wasn't sure but indicated she would find out and let Council know.

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 18: Tina also requested a Transfer of Appropriation totaling \$77,101.00 for the Sheriff's County General budget, as follows:

FROM: 1000.11120.00000.0380 - Part-time	\$	77,101.00
TO: 1000.11031.00000.0380 - Part-time Jailers	\$	49,563.00
1000.11029.00000.0380 - Part-time Jail Operators	\$	27,538.00
TOTAL	\$	77,101.00

John Stoeckley made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Keith Eller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 19: There was discussion by Council of the following proposed changes to the 2023 Wage & Salary Ordinance:

Part-time Jailers change from Budget Account 11120 to 11031  
Part-time Jail Operators change from Budget Account 11120 to 11029

ITEM 20: Keith Eller made a motion to open the 2023 Wage & Salary Ordinance. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 21: Shane Bickel made a motion to approve amend the 2023 Wage & Salary Ordinance to reflect Part-time Jailers being paid from account 11031, instead of 11120; and Part-time Jail Operators being paid from account 11029 instead of 11120; both effective 01/01/2023. Peyton Pike seconded and motion passed 7-0.

Terry Miller made a motion to amend the 2023 Wage & Salary Ordinance to reflect an increase of 1 Full-time Transport Officer to 2 Full-time positions; and increasing the number of Jail Controller positions from 2 Full-time to 3 Full-Time; both effective retroactively to 01/01/2023. Shane Bickel seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 22: Peyton Pike made a motion to close the 2023 Wage & Salary Ordinance. Brian Warpup seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 23: County Assessor Jill Zorger requested Transfers of Appropriation in the Assessor's County General Fund 1000, as follows:

FROM:	1000.31300.00000.0008 - Education/Training	\$	1,000.00
TO:	1000.32500.00000.0008 - Travel Expenses	\$	1,000.00

FROM:	1000.31300.00000.0008 - Education/Training	\$	46.50
TO:	1000.45100.00000.0008 - Office Equipment	\$	46.50

John Stoeckley made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 24: Jill Zorger also requested Transfers of Appropriation in the Sales Disclosure Fund 1131, as follows:

FROM:	1131.24500.00000.0000 - Operating Supplies	\$2,500.00
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TO:	1131.31300.00000.0000 - Education/Training	\$	1,000.00
	1131.32500.00000.0000 - Travel Expenses	\$	1,500.00

John Stoeckley made a motion to approve the Transfers of Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 25: Commissioner's Secretary Bridgett Burkhart requested a Transfer of Appropriation totaling \$7,008.12 in the Commissioner's County General Fund 1000, as follows:

FROM:	1000.36200.00000.0068 - Service Contracts	\$	7,008.12
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TO:	1000.12900.00000.0068 - HR Director	\$	7,000.00
	1000.11300.00000.0068 - Secretary	\$	8.12

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. John Stoeckley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 26: Bridgett also presented a request for an Additional Appropriation totaling \$164,452.00 in the ARPA Fund 8950, as follows:

8950.11033.00000.0000	Inmate Advocate	\$	41,996.00
8950.11120.00000.0000	Living Unit Coordinator - PT	\$	102,436.00
8950.34300.00000.0000	Workers Compensation	\$	10,417.00
8950.12200.00000.0000	Retirement	\$	6,867.00
8950.12100.00000.0000	Social Security	\$	2,736.00
	TOTAL:	\$	164,452.00

Shane Bickel made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriations. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 27: Bridgett also requested Transfers of Appropriation in Fund 8950 - American Rescue Plan (ARPA), as follows:

FROM:	8950.36200.00000.0000 Service Contracts	\$	50,000.00
TO:	8950.38515.00000.0000 Non-Profit Grants	\$	50,000.00

FROM:	8950.12300.00000.0000 - Group Insurance	\$	181,119.00
	8950.11900.00000.0000 - Longevity	\$	282.00
TO:	8950.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contracts	\$	181,401.00



FROM:	8950.11239.00000.0000 - Transition Team Manager	\$	41,400.00
	8950.11176.00000.0000 - Living Unit Coord (FT)	\$	165,248.00
TO:	8950.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contracts	\$	206,648.00

Keith Eller made a motion to approve the Transfers of Appropriation. Peyton Pike seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 28: Bridgett also requested a Transfer of Appropriation of \$774.00 from Fund 4925 Redevelopment Commission budget line 4925.36200.00000.0000 - Service Contracts to 4925.11300.00000.0000 - Secretary.

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Brian Warpup seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

**\* ADDITIONAL CONVERSATION**

John Stoeckley asked Auditor Jill Landrum about the ARPA Fund and the tracking of expenditures, and the frequent transfers and appropriations that are requested. Jill explained that Stefanie Barrios and Bridgett Burkhardt do a lot of the ARPA tracking and that originally ARPA recipients were required to define certain projects, but over a period of time, the terms of the grant were changed to allow expenditures on basically anything that were considered to be general government services and expenses.

Bridgett Burkhardt stated that the ARPA money must be allocated by the end of 2024, and spent by the end of 2026. Council member Brian Warpup inquired about whether all of the ARPA money has been allocated and Bridgett Burkhardt explained how some of the original projects have cost less than expected so they can reallocate the money for other purposes. Jill mentioned that Treasurer Brenda Hamilton spoke with the Commissioners about the possibility of using some of the remaining ARPA money to purchase updated taxing software that will be used by the Auditor's office, Treasurer's office, and the Assessor's office. Our current software is over 20 years old and is outdated. The Commissioners indicated that they would consider the request. Several Council members expressed concern that the ARPA funds will eventually end and the positions currently being funded by the ARPA money will need to find other funding sources after ARPA funds are exhausted.

ITEM 29: Auditor Jill Landrum appeared on behalf of Chief Probation Officer Heather Malone to request a Transfer of Appropriation of \$2,259.74 from Fund 9661 - JDAI budget line 9661.12100.00000.9651 - Social Security to 9661.12200.00000.9651 - Retirement.

Terry Miller made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation. Keith Eller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 30: The following Encumbrances were presented to Council for approval:

COUNTY GENERAL - O'DONNELL CENTER

1000.21403.00000.9620	Janitor Supplies	\$	857.99
1000.36100.00000.9620	Repair	\$	3,900.00
1000.44100.00000.9620	Equipment	\$	10,000.00

TOTAL: \$ 14,757.99

Peyton Pike made a motion to approve the Encumbrances and Shane Bickel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

ITEM 31: NEW/OLD BUSINESS: Nothing presented.

ITEM 32: **REPORTS & ORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES:**

COMMUNITY CORRECTION COMMITTEE - Terry Miller reported that Community Corrections is working on several grants. In order to participant in the program, there are certain criteria that must be met. Currently they are working through the kinks.

SOLID WASTE - Peyton Pike was unable to attend the meeting, but Christi McElhaney reported to Peyton that there is a drainage issue at the Solid Waste facility located at the old landfill.

3-A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - John Stoeckley reported that the next meeting is March 16.

JOB CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - Keith Eller, John Stoeckley, & Brian Warpup - a schedule was set-up and the next meeting is March 1st.

LOCAL ANTI-DRUG COALITION EFFORT (L.A.C.E.)/EARLY INTERVENTION TEAM - Shane Bickel reported that the County Health Officer, Dr. Matt Pflieger, spoke at the last LACE meeting explaining the Opioid Settlement. Shane mentioned that the LACE program continues to grow and there are many groups from the community that want to contribute.

LIME CITY DEVELOPMENT - Terry Miller reported that the last meeting was on January 27th at Metal Source and there were end-of-year updates given.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - Keith Eller reported that they will be running a full-size exercise at the end of March, funded by a grant.

PLAN COMMISSION - Terry Miller reported that an organizational meeting is scheduled for March 1st.

C.E.D.I.T. ADVISORY - Peyton Pike was unable to attend the last meeting so Council members Brian Warpup and John Stoeckley attended. Brian reported that the Historic Warren committee purchased the old PNC Bank building. The town contributed some funds, and they are requesting \$14,000 of CEDIT funds, which is being presented to the Commissioners for a favorable recommendation.

HCUED - Kendall Mickley reported that there was a meeting and he would forward information to council members by e-mail. He said that there is a lot of good stuff coming in 2023, and that 2022 was a great year. Terry Miller stated that he has been heading up a housing steering committee and there will be a Housing Symposium held on April 12th at 8:30am at the Forks of the Wabash. Terry indicated that we need more housing to bring people to our community. A recent study revealed that at a minimum, Huntington County could handle 300 roof tops per year for five years. This could help our property tax base.

ABCD (Above & Beyond the Call of Duty) - Keith Eller reported that there was no meeting held.

TAX ABATEMENT REVIEW - John Stoeckley reported that there has not been any meetings.

WHARMM - Peyton Pike indicated that there hasn't been a meeting. John Stoeckley commented that he spoke with Marilyn Morrison and they are going to restart this group.

COMMISSIONERS HEALTH INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Keith Eller indicated that there was nothing new to report. We spent about 78% in 2022.

EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL - Peyton Pike - Nothing to report.

HCPSD COMMITTEE - Kendall Mickley reported that there would be a meeting in March.

INTERNAL CONTROLS COMMITTEE - Kendall Mickley & Jill Landrum - Nothing to report.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (RDC) - Terry Miller & John Stoeckley - There was nothing new to report.

ITEM 33: ADJOURNMENT - Shane Bickel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Miller seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

ADOPTED THIS 27th DAY OF MARCH 2023:

*Absent*  
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KENDALL MICKLEY  
*T. Miller*  
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TERRY MILLER  
*Shane Bickel*  
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SHANE BICKEL  
*Peyton Pike*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PEYTON PIKE

*Keith Eller*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KEITH ELLER  
*John Stoeckley*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN STOECKLEY  
*Absent*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BRIAN WARPUP

ATTEST:

*Jill M. Landrum*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JILL M. LANDRUM, AUDITOR