

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting –April 1, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Commissioners of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular scheduled session on the above date at 2:00 P.M. with the following present: Commissioners Dale Strong, Dale Munson, and Tracie Bever, and Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

Commissioner Strong called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Munson moved to approve the minutes of March 18th regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

BID OPENING:

We received four bids for the 2025 CCMG Project:

Paul H. Rohe Company of Sunman, Indiana - \$1,939,022.57

Milestone Contractors of Richmond, Indiana - \$1,717,860.00

DC Construction Services of Pendleton, Indiana - \$2,219,141.12

Dave O'Mara Contractors Inc. of North Vernon, Indiana - \$1,559,845.78

Commissioner Munson moved to take the bids under advisement and allow our Butler Fairman & Seufert representative to review and then advise us, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

911:

Kelly VanMeter submitted a proposal from WTH for 911 mapping. We were approved for a reimbursement grant to cover the cost of \$29,665. Commissioner Bever moved that we approve the 911 mapping proposal from WTH, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

ASSESSOR:

Jeff Coleman presented a 144 to hire Ashley Wicker as part-time clerical help. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

CLERK:

Dawn Hughes presented a 144 to hire Cassie Bright as part-time voter registration clerk. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:

Steve Bills was appearing on behalf of Community Corrections, Probation, Prosecutor, and Drug Court requesting permission to apply for the 2026 DOC grants. They are overall requesting an extra \$428,900, an increase of 42.29%. He said it never hurts to ask, but he is guessing there will be about a 5% cut across the board statewide. He believes with the female center being opened it may help us get some additional funding. He said some work release centers are closing around the state so he is hoping that will free up some funds that could possibly be sent our way. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the grant submittal for 2026 as outlined, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Steve asked if we had a date for when the new facility should be done, and Commissioner Strong said he's been told it will be the end of this month.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Wade Walling shared that there are some emergency alerts that automation has already started. He will be fine-tuning that system so we are not receiving Union County and Franklin County

stuff. He also wanted to let everyone know that the National Weather Service was predicting a lot of rain over the next 72 hours and that flooding will be expected in some areas.

HIGHWAY:

Chris Gettinger said they had been out putting cans in. He said it's his understanding that the contractors are wanting to do the CCMG project a lot sooner this year so they are working toward getting the roads ready for paving. He said they should be done with 400 W the next day except for one big can. He said there was one more to do on Hawkinsville Road. He said they know some roads are in bad shape. They've had the paver in the shop getting it ready. Powell's is expecting to be ready the second week of April for hot mix. Commissioner Strong said on 400 W up toward Hawkinsville there are two culverts with big head walls. Chris said that one of those has been removed already and the other one is coming out tomorrow. Chris said if you go up 400 there at 150 they put a can right there. He said the can was going diagonal across the road but they have made it go straight across, making that intersection a lot wider so it will be better for farmers. They've replaced seven cans on 400 and will be 8 if they tackle the big one. He said there will be four on 350.

MAINTENANCE:

Josh Jarboe said they mowed today for the first time. He said George fixed the existing mower so he thinks they can get by with it and not need to purchase a replacement at this time. The State Inspector for the boilers was here and Josh said we got dinged on one of the new boiler installs because we did not have carbon monoxide testers in the boiler room. Also the relief valve on the boiler installed at the jail was not rated highly enough. The carbon monoxide testers have now been installed in all boiler rooms, and ResolveTech is supposed to fix the relief valve issue this week. North Mechanical is upstairs removing an old water heater. They are disconnecting the gas line, power lines, etc. now. He said the high school interns have been moving boxes from the basement of the jail, and Josh hopes to have that project done by the time school is out. He plans to repurpose the shelving material and use it in the jail to widen the doors.

PROBATION:

Ryan Siggers presented Probation's annual report. They supervised 1,263 individuals last year. Their average case load size is 113 and the recommended is 40 to 60 depending on risk level and things like that. They conducted 5,265 appointments. Probation costs \$4.96 a day versus \$37 a day to have them in jail. He said the county provides about 55% of their funding and the other 45% comes through user fees and grants. Probation collected \$43,628.64 in restitution for victims.

SHERIFF:

Zac Jones presented the Jail's annual report. The average daily population was down to 116 in 2024. Our fees received from Department of Corrections was similar to prior years. Zac shared that he has officially hired Patrick Malloun as a road deputy. Zac announced that Joey Laughlin has officially given his notice and will be retiring April 11th to take a position with the Indiana Gaming Commission. Zac will have a Merit Board meeting and hopes to hire Trevor Young, who is currently an officer in Union County, to replace Joey. The jail inspector always says we are short of jailers, and has recommended we hire six additional jailers. They drove about 70,000 miles in transports in 2024. The price per meals from TIGG's Food Services was \$2.12 per meal. Medical expenses were \$302,095, a considerable increase from the prior year due to some 2023 expenses not being paid until 2024. Quality Correctional Care scrubs medical bills and negotiates with providers and that saved the county over \$337,000. The jail provides various services including a G.E.D. Program, Church Services, Counseling, Therapeutic Community, and I.R.A.C.S. Several maintenance projects were completed, but there are still several unfunded maintenance projects needing done. Commissioner Bever asked if McCombs was going to be able to fix a gate for us, and Zac said that Chase currently has too much on his plate to do additional work. Zac introduced a gentleman with Cintas. Cintas won the bid through the State of Indiana for quantity purchase agreements. They have done a review of our current spending and believe they can save us a tremendous amount of money on supplies. Commissioner Strong requested they send some comparison quotes.

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Geoff Wesling did not have anything for commissioners at this time.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

There was no council member present.

MAIL:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PATRON CONCERNS:

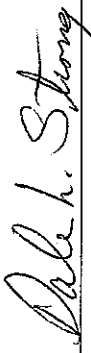
None

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:

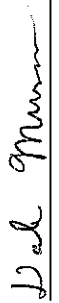
Commissioner Munson moved to approve claims and payroll as presented, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0. Commissioners then signed all paperwork on camera.

ADJOURNMENT:

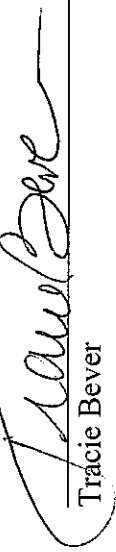
Commissioner Munson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.



Dale Strong, President



Dale Munson, Vice-President



Tracie Bever



Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor