FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – July 15, 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, along with 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 July 1st regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

IT:
Michael King presented a quote to purchase a laptop for EMA at a cost of $948.41. He said EMA does have funds for that in a grant then would use some repair of equipment money remaining in his budget. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the purchase of a laptop for EMA, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Michael presented a 144 to fill the part-time IT position and hire Billy Mays. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:
Wade Walling requested permission to apply for two grants, one is a Rumpke Community Giving Grant and the other is a CSX Railroad Grant for safety equipment for EMA volunteers. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the grant applications, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. When questioned about why the volunteer waivers were not yet signed, Wade said he was waiting to see if the forms would be revised based on what he saw as a potential conflict with the volunteers being covered under workers comp. Commissioners advised Wade to put his volunteers on hold for the time being until decisions can be made about the liability form.

911:
Kelly VanMeter presented a 144 to re-hire Chandra Hardin and Ellie Ford as part-time dispatchers. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY:
Chris Gettinger discussed the need to hire a mechanic and a heavy equipment operator, and Commissioners agreed to the hiring of one mechanic and one heavy equipment operator. He will bring a 144 to the August 5th meeting.

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

MAIL:
None

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:
There was no council member present.

OLD BUSINESS:
None

NEW BUSINESS:
Commissioner Bever shared with the public that the county has approved application for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grant through OCRA and need letters of support and need from the community.

PATRON CONCERNS:
Charmin Gabbard shared some data regarding the syringe exchange program and asked commissioners to review the data prior to making any decisions regarding extending the syringe exchange program. She was accompanied by Alison Greene of Indiana University School of Public Health. She gave a recap of the history of the Syringe Exchange Program. Matt Sherck spoke on behalf of the Health Department and shared Dr. White's decision not to renew the public health emergency, and said the Health Department has not been presented with any data that would cause Dr. White to reinstate the public health emergency. Alison Greene of IU and Jordan Aubuchon and Lauren Robbins, employees of the Connection Café, spoke in favor of the syringe exchange program and other harm reduction services. Sheriff Zac Jones spoke and said he's not a huge fan of the needle exchange program but spoke in favor of the other services they provide. Commissioners said they would like to meet with Dr. White and get some clarification from him regarding the public health emergency before making any decisions.

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 3:34 p.m.

Dale L. Strong

Dale Strong, President

Dale Munson

Dale Munson, Vice-President

Tracie Bever

Tracie Bever

Jane E Downard

Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor