

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – August 5, 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 15th regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Missy Kavanaugh and Matt Sherek were present. They want to host a Health and Safety Fair on September 6th from 9 to 1 in the back parking lot. This will be the last Farmers Market day and she has already talked to Stephanie and it will not impede them in any way. Commissioner Munson moved to allow the use of the lot, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Missy said she has had 14 vendors respond already, and she is going to reach out to Sheriff's Department too. They will be offering immunizations that day as well.

CLERK:

Dawn Hughes presented 144s to hire Robin Bolduc as a voter registration clerk and Jaci Richardson as a Child Support Clerk to replace vacancies left by resignations. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144s as presented, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

ANIMAL SHELTER:

Dave Ryckman said they found someone who would wash their animals for free and will start a little client thing. Hannah Groce was present and Dave introduced her. Commissioners Strong and Bever both expressed their concerns about allowing a private individual to conduct private business on county property and using county equipment. County Attorney Geoff Wesling was not present during this part of the meeting due to a conflict with a hearing in Circuit Court. When Geoff returned to the meeting, Dave explained that she would be using our tubs and water but she would be using her own shampoo on client animals. Geoff said his instinct and very strong gut is that we legally cannot do this, but he said if commissioners want him to look for a loophole, they could table this until the next meeting. Commissioner Munson moved to table a final decision until Geoff can look into any legal loopholes. Commissioner Bever said she would not second the motion because she feels that even if Geoff could find a loophole it is not a wise decision for the county because it could open the county to legal action from other businesses and she believes it violates our handbook. Commissioner Strong also declined to second the motion because in his years of experience as a public official he does not believe it is the right thing to do or the best thing to do. Geoff said even if he could find a loophole, he would still advise commissioners against approving it.

HIGHWAY:

Chris Gettinger presented a 144 to hire Cody Vaught as a heavy equipment operator. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Strong asked if he had heard anything from the contractor about this year's Community Crossings project. Chris said he had talked to Chad Whitesel and the contractor is slated to begin the second week of August.

SURVEYOR:

Bill Macke said on the big culvert work on 450 E that Mike was in this morning and was locating utilities and would be getting started in the next week or so.

911:

Kelly VanMeter was unable to be present at the meeting but emailed the names of three people she'd like to hire for 911 dispatchers. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the 144s for Savanna Pollitt, Kylie Osborn, and Lillian Pusey as part-time dispatchers, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

MAIL:

None

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

There was no council member present.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Brad Colter, the new Director of Economic Development Group, gave commissioners an update on his role.

Greg Beumer of Kleinpeter Consulting was present regarding the OOR Grant application. The maximum grant under this program is \$25,000. Handicap accessibility is an eligible project. New roof, electrical upgrades, heating and cooling upgrades, new water heaters, etc. are also eligible projects. They do not do renovation of structures other than roof replacement. To be eligible, a homeowner has to live in the home and be income eligible. For our county, the thresholds for 1 person is \$47,550, for 2 people is \$52,450, and it goes on increasing by a few thousand dollars for each additional person. There is a public hearing next Tuesday, August 12th, at 5 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room. Commissioner Munson moved to approve Resolution 25-R-5, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

The Syringe Exchange Program was discussed. Commissioner Bever gave her opinion that she would rely on the information and recommendation of our County Health Officer. Commissioner Munson moved to petition the State Health Commissioner to issue an emergency, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 2-1 with Commissioners Munson and Strong voting in favor and Commissioner Bever voting against.

The Purdue Pharma Bankruptcy Plan information had been forwarded to commissioners. Cohen and Malad recommend that we approve the plan. Commissioner Bever moved to approve proceeding with the plan as outlined in the email forwarded by Cohen and Malad, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners had received bids to repair the parking lot at the Jail Annex and Female Work Release Building. All About Asphalt out of Richmond, who will be paving the City Parking lot and County owned spaces next to the city's lot and the courthouse sidewalk, gave a bid of \$44,700 to do the new facility's lot as well as the parking spaces between that lot and the Annex Building. They said they could possibly get to that project by the end of the month. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the quote from All About Asphalt, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Williams Creek Excavating, Friendly Contracting, and Fortified Buildings all gave quotes for the concrete work needing done at the Jail Annex and Female Work Release. Fortified Building's quote is \$17,672.73; Williams Creek Excavating is \$5,650; and Friendly Contracting is \$5,600. Commissioner Munson moved to accept the quote from Friendly Contracting on a conditional basis that the job can be completed within a reasonable amount of time and not hold up the paving of the parking lot; if that condition cannot be met, commissioners reserve the option to accept bid from Williams Creek under same conditions, Commissioner Bever seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Scott Carnegie of DLZ sent a letter outlining an additional service request resulting from the delay in completing the Jail Annex and Female Work Release project. Commissioner Bever moved to approve signing the additional service request letter for DLZ, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Strong received two quotes for two jobs needing done at Manlove Park. One is for breaching the dam at the lake to replace a drainage pipe, and the other is for clearing about ten acres for a sediment storage area. Any vote for accepting these bids needs to be contingent on receiving the proper permits from the DNR for this work. Commissioner Bever said she had an additional vendor willing to bid on this project. Geoff Wesling advised commissioners since there was no bid deadline given and the amounts of bids already received had not been shared that they should table any decision until the next meeting. Commissioner Munson moved to table accepting bids until our next meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

PATRON CONCERNS:

Michael Kerrigan of 3047 S County Road 625 W said he had contacted the County Highway Department at the end of June regarding the condition of his road. He said he also sent Commissioner Strong some pictures a couple of weeks after that. He said the issue has not been addressed completely and he wanted to bring it to the attention of the commissioners. Chris Gettinger said that he had sent a crew down there to do some work, and they will probably go back and do some more work as time permits, but it will not be their first priority.

Dave Ryckman said on 325 E and Springersville Road at the T you can't really see the stop sign until you are right up on it. The highway department will look into it.

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 3:36 p.m.

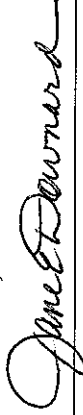


Dale Strong, President



Tracie Bever

Dale Munson, Vice-President



Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor