



HENDRICKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS **MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2024 MEETING**

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The Hendricks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Hendricks County Government Center at 355 S. Washington Street, Danville, IN 46122 with the following Hendricks County personnel in attendance:

Phyllis A. Palmer	Commissioner, President
Bob Gentry	Commissioner, Vice President
Dennis W. Dawes	Commissioner
Greg Steuerwald	County Attorney
Mila M. Shaffer	Administration and Public Affairs
Nancy Marsh	Auditor
Brad Whicker	Councilman
Dave Cox	Councilman
Dave Wyeth	Councilman
Jack Sadler	Sheriff
Dan Chubb	Coroner
Dave Gaston	Surveyor
Tiffany Dalton	Chief Deputy Surveyor
Cinda Kattau	Chief Deputy Auditor
Stephanie Moore	Chief Deputy Coroner
Dr. David Stopperich	Health Officer
John Ayers	Engineer
Erin Hughes	Human Resources Administrator
Jack Swalley	Facilities Manager
Doug Morris	I.T. Director
Tim Dombrosky	Planning & Building Director
Curt Higginbotham	Highway Department Superintendent
Mark Chmielewski	Government Center Security Deputy
Kristen Lien	Environmental Health Team Lead Septic
Paula Alkire	Financial Administrator
Kara Bergdoll	Budgetary Deputy
Ann Stark	Payroll Deputy
Shawna Cossell	Financial/Payroll Deputy
Emily Cox	Surveyor's Office Manager
Ryan Lemley	Parks & Recreation Superintendent

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG, PRAYER, AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Commissioner Palmer opened the Meeting at 9:00 AM with a quorum of all three (3) Commissioners present and led the Pledge to the Flag in unison. Commissioner Dawes gave a brief prayer for those who wished to participate.

IN THE MATTER OF NANCY MARSH

Greg Steuerwald presented Nancy Marsh with a Sagamore of the Wabash award and stated the Sagamore is the

highest honor bestowed by the Governor of Indiana.

The Commissioners and Greg Steuerwald thanked Nancy Marsh for her dedication to the County.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve Check Numbers 110609-110610, Direct Deposit Numbers 256275-257057, and Budgetary Claims presented from the Auditor's Office for the period beginning November 28, 2024 and ending December 11, 2024 as presented. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No matters presented.

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING OF 2025 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PRODUCTS & SUPPLIES

John Ayers recommended awarding the 2025 Highway Department Products and Supplies to the vendors listed below:

VENDORS	ASPHALT	FUEL	PAVEMENT MARKING	PIPE	STONE
Asphalt Materials	✓				
CivilCon				✓	
Core & Main				✓	
Indiana Sign & Barricade			✓		
Jackson Oil & Solvents		✓			
Keystone Cooperative		✓			
Lincoln Park Stone					✓
Martin Marietta					✓
Metal Culverts, Inc.				✓	
Milestone	✓				
Putnam County Aggregates					✓
S&G Excavating					✓
St. Regis Culvert				✓	
US Aggregates					✓

Commissioner Gentry moved to award the 2025 Highway Department Products and Supplies as recommended. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0. Full award details are available in the Engineering Department.

IN THE MATTER OF BRIDGE NO. 49 DESIGN AGREEMENT WITH CROSSROAD ENGINEERS

John Ayers presented the CrossRoad Engineers Agreement for Engineering Services for \$142,600.00 for Bridge No. 49 and recommended approval.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and John Ayers regarding the matter and correcting the dollar amount listed in the Contract. Greg Steuerwald stated to correct the Contract to \$142,600.00 and have the President initial the correction.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Agreement as recommended. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF INDOT UNOFFICIAL DETOUR REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACT

John Ayers presented the INDOT Unofficial Detour Reimbursement Contract for \$22,706.20 for repairs to CR 900 E. and CR 675 N. from their detour route of SR 236 and recommended approval.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and John Ayers regarding the matter.

Commissioner Dawes moved to approve the Contract as recommended. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 2024-22,
ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEM ORDINANCE**

Kristen Lien presented an amended version of Ordinance No. 2024-22, Onsite Sewage System Ordinance, to remove, “certified by an engineer, a professional surveyor or architect currently registered in Indiana”, from the definition of a plot plan in Section A and requested approval. Kristen Lien advised the amendment was requested by the State’s Technical Review Panel.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Dr. David Stopperich, and Kristen Lien regarding the matter.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Ordinance as amended. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0. Nancy Marsh assigned Ordinance No. 2024-50.

**IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFICATION OF THE HEALTH BOARD’S APPOINTMENT OF
THE HEALTH OFFICER**

Dr. David Stopperich requested the Commissioners certify the Health Board’s appointment for him to serve as the County’s Health Officer for another four-year term.

Commissioner Gentry moved to certify the Health Board’s appointment of Dr. David Stopperich as requested. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER FOR OLD JAIL DEMOLITION PROJECT

Jack Swalley and Dan Zuerner, Garmong representative, presented Change Order No. 2 from Ray’s Demolition for the old Jail Demolition Project to extend the completion date October 31, 2024 to May 15, 2025 for additional time to seed and/or straw the site. Ray’s Demolition understands they are responsible for any expenses that may be imposed by an agency or authority with jurisdiction over storm water related requirements due to the site not being covered with the seed/straw and/or being left unattended awaiting appropriate seeding conditions.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Change Order as presented. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSAL FROM ALLIED EQUIPMENT FOR FORKLIFT

Jack Swalley presented a Proposal from Allied Equipment for \$20,000.00 to purchase a forklift for the new storage building by the Animal Shelter and requested approval.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Proposal as presented. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING PROPERTY OF NO VALUE

Ryan Lemley requested the following items be declared of no value so they can be properly disposed of: one 5HP Yard Machine tiller Model 135202, one Troy-Bilt pressure washer, one boiler at McCloud Nature Center, and one greenhouse at McCloud Nature Center.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and Ryan Lemley regarding the matter.

Commissioner Gentry moved to declare the items of no value as requested. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF BROWNSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Gentry moved to appoint Lori Turpin to serve another term on the Brownsburg Public Library

Board. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Dawes moved to appoint Matthew Isbell, John Leitzman, and Mike Edmondson to serve a term on the Redevelopment Commission. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0. Commissioner Dawes advised he spoke with I.E. Lewis to let him know he was not being appointed to serve another term and to thank him for his service to the County.

IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Commissioner Palmer presented Curt Higginbotham with a Certificate of Recognition to recognize his dedication and hard work in establishing the Indiana County Highway Workers Foundation. The Foundation was established to assist the families of Indiana county highway workers who are killed or disabled while working.

IN THE MATTER OF OBLIGATING ARPA FUNDS

Nancy Marsh presented an Inter-Agency Agreement and several Memorandums of Understanding to obligate the ARPA funds the County received and requested approval. Nancy Marsh advised the funds have to be obligated by December 31, 2024 and closed out by December 31, 2026.

Commissioner Dawes moved to approve the Agreement and Memorandums as presented. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and there was discussion amongst the Commissioners and Nancy Marsh regarding the matter. Dawes reported that Nancy Marsh agreed to continue handling the ARPA funding through the end of December 31, 2026. Commissioner Gentry stated the Commissioners were chastised harshly by a business for not passing any ARPA funds to business and inquired if there was any money left to help them. Nancy Marsh advised she has to balance, but thinks it's mostly gone, including the interest. The motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Jonathan Hibbard, 8025 North Point Drive in Brownsburg, requested the County's help with an issue the residents in Highland Springs are having with the Town of Brownsburg drilling/boring behind their homes and is concerned about them damaging the roads in the subdivision, which is not in the Town's limits.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Greg Steuerwald, John Ayers, Tim Dombrosky, and Curt Higginbotham regarding the matter and if there was anything the County could do to restrict them from using the roads as suggested by Jonathan Hibbard. John Ayers stated the County can't stop anyone's usage of County roads, advised well drilling equipment doesn't normally exceed the load limits, so there should not be any damage caused to the roads. John Ayers advised he could reach out to the Town to let them know the County is aware and put them on notice for damage to the roads. Greg Steuerwald stated it is a public thoroughfare and suggested the Town be put on notice that they will have to compensate the County for any damage they may cause to the roads. Commissioner Dawes advised he would talk with the Town.

Jim Murphy, 10726 N. State Road 267 in Brownsburg, suggested that in the future they look at the Comprehensive Plan for construction traffic through County Road and reported the land where they're doing the test wells that has yet to be annexed by the Town of Brownsburg, is owned by Lord Realty/Maloney LLC.

David Weyant, P.O. Box 513 in Brownsburg, congratulated Commissioner Palmer on her retirement and thanked the Commissioners for their professional yet relaxed environment they foster. David Weyant advised this started from the top down and thanked Commissioner Palmer for the foundation she helped establish with her leadership.

Jeff Smallwood, B&O Trail Association (BOTA) reported they are developing a recreational trail through Maplewood, IN on land that is currently under a conservation easement in favor of Hendricks County and improvements on properties in Maplewood owned by Kimberly Shugars (tax parcel 10-2-11-61 W370-001 and 10-2-11-61 W370-001) encroach on the land owned by BOTA. Jeff Smallwood stated that specifically a corner of the Shugars' garage, a portion of their driveway, an above ground swimming pool, and fence encroach on BOTA

land and requested approval from the Commissioners to grant an easement to the Shugars which defines the allowed uses of this land outlined in their proposed encroachment agreement.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Greg Steuerwald, and Jeff Smallwood regarding the matter. Jeff Smallwood advised the agreement between BOTA and the Shugars benefits the trail plans because it clearly establishes that the BOTA owns the land in question, defines what is and is not allowed within the easement area, prevents further encroachment onto BOTA land, conforms to the wishes of the Commissioners to settle the land disputes in Maplewood in an amicable manner, and clarifies the land ownership without resorting to potentially costly litigation

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the BOTA's request to grant an easement to the Shugars for land that is under a conservation easement in favor of the County as presented. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

Mike Roberts, 7365 N. 850 E. in Brownsburg, thanked the Commissioners, John Ayers, and the Sheriff's Department for implementing and enforcing the 30 MPH speed limit on his road.

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheriff Jack Sadler reported Captain Amanda Goings retired after 28 years and stated she'd been a blessing to the department for a long time and thanked Commissioner Palmer and Nancy Marsh for their help and guidance.

Councilman Wyeth thanked Commissioner Palmer and Nancy Marsh and requested Jack Swalley reach out to the Fairgrounds regarding the forklift and hold off on purchasing one.

Diane Hubbard, Congressman Baird's Office, advised that at the request of Congressman Jim Baird, the US Flag is being flown over the United States Capitol today in honor of Commissioner Palmer, in recognition of her dedicated leadership and longtime service to the people of Hendricks County. Diane Hubbard stated the Flag and Certificate will be sent to Commissioner Palmer in a couple of weeks.

Senator Elect Brett Clark thanked Commissioner Palmer and Nancy Marsh and advised he would like to speak with Commissioner Gentry about the water study he had mentioned.

Councilman Cox jokingly stated he was here for the cupcakes and expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Palmer for her guidance.

Nancy Marsh thanked everyone and stated she appreciates everything everyone has done.

Commissioner Palmer received an email from Nicki Lawson requesting that her credit card limit be increased from \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 and stated she could not attend the meeting.

Nancy Marsh stated the issue is that Nicole Lawson takes several employees with her to conferences and the current limit does not always cover the costs for everyone.

Commissioner Dawes moved to approve increasing Nicole Lawson's credit card limit to \$6,000.00 as requested. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

State Representative Jeff Thompson commended Commissioner Palmer for her service.

IN THE MATTER OF DEVELOPER INSPECTION AGREEMENT

John Ayers presented the Developer Inspection Agreement with the Town of Danville for the new Highway Department Facility to be billed at \$100.00 per hour and recommended approval.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Agreement as recommended. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gentry stated that it's been a privilege working with Commissioner Palmer, that he's learned a lot from her, and she projects an image the County voters want to see.

Commissioner Dawes requested Commissioner Palmer's husband, Fred Palmer, and sons, Damon Palmer and Rob Palmer, come to the front of the Commissioners' Meeting Room. Commissioner Dawes presented Commissioner Palmer with an engraved vase for her retirement and read the following inscription:

"In sincere gratitude for the compassion, guidance, and outstanding leadership you've provided to Hendricks County over the last 24 years. May you be proud of the work you have done, the person you are, and the difference you have made. Best Wishes, Hendricks County Government"

Greg Steuerwald presented Commissioner Palmer with a Sagamore of the Wabash award and stated the Sagamore is the highest honor bestowed by the Governor of Indiana.

Commissioner Palmer thanked everyone and was speechless.

Commissioner Dawes reported there was a retirement reception with refreshments for Commissioner Palmer in the rotunda area for all to attend and stated she has been great to work with, even before he was Commissioner.

Fred Palmer gave an emotional statement about his wife, Commissioner Palmer, and her commitment to her family and to the County.

Commissioner Palmer thanked Tim Dombrosky for his professionalism and leadership with the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and stated she is proud to have a department head that is working with people. Tim Dombrosky stated Commissioner Palmer has been a good example and a paragon of compromise, selfless, committed, and is going to miss her presence.

Commissioner Palmer recognized the Avon High School Band for their performance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Commissioner Dawes congratulated the Brownsburg High School Football Team for the State Championship.

Commissioner Palmer reported she and Commissioner Dawes attended the Recycling District luncheon and came away from there with a full heart and stated the people their appreciate their jobs and the \$5.00 raise they received.

Commissioner Palmer reported she attended the Rotary Club this morning and assured them they are working together with the Town of Avon to get the bridge there completed.

Commissioner Palmer stated it's been her honor and her pleasure to serve the people of Hendricks County and is going to miss it.

IN THE MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

CHECKS RECEIVED

1. \$1,205.00	Hession Farms	Lease of farm ground
2. \$32,760.00	Amerisure Mutual Insurance	Settlement for damages to GOC

STAFF REPORTS RECEIVED

1. Receipt acknowledged for the Engineering Department Report of December 10, 2024 from John Ayers.
2. Receipt acknowledged for the Executive Director's Report of December 10, 2024 from Todd McCormack.
3. Receipt acknowledged for the I.T. Department Report of December 10, 2024 from Doug Morris.
4. Receipt acknowledged for the Facilities Department Report of December 10, 2024 from Jack Swalley.

5. Receipt acknowledged for the Highway Department Report of November 18-22, 2024 and November 25-29, 2024 from Curt Higginbotham.
6. Receipt acknowledged for the HR Report of November 23, 2024-December 6, 2024 from Erin Hughes.
7. Animal Control/Shelter Report of November 22, 2024-December 6, 2024 from LaDonna Hughes.
8. Receipt acknowledged for the EMA Report of November 23, 2024-December 6, 2024 from Debbi Fletcher.
9. Receipt acknowledged for the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending November 30, 2024 from Dawn Mayhood.
10. Receipt acknowledged for the Parks & Recreation Report of December 6, 2024 from Ryan Lemley.


CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED


1. Notice of Tort Claim from Ken Nunn Law Office representing Susan Helton-Groce and Frederick Groce.
2. Invitation to meet with neighbors from Tuohy Bailey & Moore representing Lennar Homes of Indiana.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Palmer adjourned the Hendricks County Commissioners' Meeting at 10:41 AM on Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

Phyllis A. Palmer, President


Bob Gentry, Vice President


Dennis W. Dawes, Member