

HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by former President Eric Wathen on Tuesday January 21, 2025, with the following in attendance: Councilmen David Cox, Nancy Marsh, David Wyeth, Larry Scott, Eric Wathen, Larry Hesson, Charles Parsons, Auditor Ann Stark, Financial Administrator Paula Alkire and Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook. Former President, Eric Wathen led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE 2025 HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL

Former President, Eric Wathen opened the floor for nominations for President. It was moved by David Wyeth and seconded by Larry Hesson to nominate Larry Scott as the 2025 Council President. Motion carried 7-0. President Larry Scott opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. It was moved by David Wyeth and seconded by Charles Parsons to nominate David Cox as the 2025 Council Vice President. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2025 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

President, Larry Scott asked for volunteers for the Area Plan Commission and Councilmen David Wyeth and Eric Wathen both volunteered. A vote was taken for David Wyeth to sit on the Area Plan Commission. A 4-3 vote in favor of David Wyeth won, with Charles Parsons, David Cox, Larry Scott, and David Wyeth voting in favor.

The following appointments were made.

BOARD	APPOINTEE	TERM	EXPIRES
Area Plan Commission	David Wyeth	1 year	12/31/2025
EMA Advisory	Charles Parsons	1 year	12/31/2025
Fair Board	David Wyeth	1 year	12/31/2025
HCEDP	Eric Wathen	1 year	12/31/2025
Health Board Liaison	Larry Hesson	1 year	12/31/2025
Senior Services	David Cox	1 year	12/31/2025
Solid Waste	Nancy Marsh	1 year	12/31/2025
Solid Waste	Charles Parsons	1 year	12/31/2025
Youth Assistance Program	David Cox	1 year	12/31/2025
Comm. Center Advisory	Eric Wathen	1 year	12/31/2025
HCCVB	Nancy Marsh	1 year (BCC Appointment)	12/31/2025
Hendricks College Network	Larry Scott	3 year (Network Appt.)	12/31/2028

OTHER COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by Eric Wathen and seconded by Larry Hesson to reappoint Nicholas Schmutte to the Alcohol Beverage Commission on the condition that he complete the paperwork provided. Motion passed 7-0. Eric Wathen motioned, and David Cox seconded the appointments of Tom Downard to the Avon Economic Development Commission, Michael Diener to the Brownsburg Economic Development Commission, Jerry Vornholt to the Danville Economic Development Commission, and Scott Slavens to the Plainfield Economic Development Commission. Motion carried 7-0.

Eric Wathen motioned, and Nancy Marsh seconded the reappointment of Jud Wolfe and Linda Watson Stansbury to the Hendricks County Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried 7-0. David Cox motioned, and David Wyeth seconded the appointment of Kathy Blake to the Coatesville Library. Motion carried 7-0. Nancy Marsh motioned, and David Cox seconded the reappointment of Andrea Hopper to PTABOA. Assessor Nikki Lawson advised that the position should be reappointed every year per statute. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>BOARD</u>	<u>APPOINTEE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Alcohol Beverage Comm.	Nicholas Schmutte	1 year	12/31/2025
Avon EDC	Tom Downard	1 year	12/31/2025
Brownsburg EDC	Michael Diener	1 year	12/31/2025
Danville EDC	Jerry Vornholt	1 year	12/31/2025
Plainfield EDC	Scott Slavens	1 year	12/31/2025
HC Redevelopment Comm.	Jud Wolfe	1 year	12/31/2025
HC Redevelopment Comm.	Linda Watson Stansbury	1 year	12/31/2025
Coatesville Library	Kathy Blake	4 year	02/10/2029
PTABOA	Andrea Hopper	1 year	12/31/2025

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2025 COUNCIL CALENDAR

President Larry Scott stated, it was difficult for the Council to research all the documentation for the meeting in such a short time, given that they usually receive everything on the Friday before the meeting. It was asked if Ann Stark could have everything to them by the Thursday before instead. Auditor Ann Stark agreed to have packets to the Council by the Thursday before the monthly meetings. It was motioned, by David Cox and seconded by Larry Hesson to approve the Council Calendar for 2025. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE DECEMBER 17TH, 2024 COUNCIL MINUTES

It was moved by Eric Wathen and seconded by David Cox to approve the December 17, 2024, Council Minutes as presented. Nancy Marsh and Charles Parsons abstained since they were not council members at the time. Motion carried 5-0-2.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

IN THE MATTER OF AVON-WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY RESOLUTION 2025-01

It was moved by Nancy Marsh and seconded by David Cox to approve Resolution 2025-01. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING END OF THE YEAR TRANSFERS

Paula Alkire confirmed most transfers were due to payroll rounding. Councilman David Wyeth motioned, and Charles Parsons seconded the approval of 2024 end of the year transfers. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING END OF THE YEAR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Paula Alkire stated that there was money receipted into the wrong fund, causing it to go negative. She had to make corrections to that fund so it was not cash negative. She stated the fix was done before closing out 2024. David Cox motioned, and Eric Wathen seconded the approval of the end of the year additional appropriations. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2024 TO 2025 ENCUMBRANCES

Nancy Marsh stated the preliminary list was presented at the December meeting and these were the final numbers. David Wyeth asked Engineer John Ayers if the \$14.4 million was accurate for the 290 & Dan Jones Road Bridge. John Ayers stated he believed it was correct. Larry Hesson moved, and Charles Parsons seconded to approve the encumbrances. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2025 SALARY ORDINANCE 2025-02

It was asked by David Cox why the highway employees were working 9-hour days, causing them to get paid more than regular 40-hour employees. Highway Superintendent, Curt Higginbotham stated that it takes time to drive to and from job sites and that extra hour allows them to get there without subtracting from work time. David Cox suggested the Commissioners look at the paid lunch of such employees. David Cox motioned, and David Wyeth seconded to approve the 2025 Salary Ordinance. Motion carried 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMERGENCY ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

The public hearing was opened for the Emergency Appropriation Resolution of January 21, 2025. Jerry Vornholt from The Republican Newspaper requested the list of Council appointments. Auditor, Ann Stark agreed to send it to him. It was asked if the meetings were recorded and confirmed that they were.

There was some discussion as to whether the sound could be louder for audience members during meetings. IT Assistant Director, John Gramling stated, the microphones cannot be turned up due to the air vent above the room. However, there are 10 assisted hearing devices available upon request for those who need them. David Cox suggested a sign be posted outside of the room informing audience members.

Eric Wathen motioned, and David Cox seconded to approve numbers 1 through 12 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

Whereas, certain extraordinary emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing budget, so that it is necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; therefore, to meet such extraordinary emergencies.

Be it resolved by the County Council of Hendricks County, Indiana, that for the expense of said County the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds as herein and for the purpose herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	APPROVED
1.	Probation	1001.15132.000.0151	Probation Officer	\$88,479.00	\$88,479.00

2.	Probation	2005.15131.000.0151	Probation Officer	\$66,476.00	\$66,476.00
3.	Probation	9122.15131.000.0151	Probation Officer	(\$66,476.00)	(\$66,476.00)
4.	Health First Indiana Grant	1161.15437.256.0154	Peer Recovery Coach	\$42,808.00	\$42,808.00
5.	Health First Indiana Grant	1001.15437.000.0154	Peer Recovery Coach	(\$45,809.00)	(\$45,809.00)
6.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.20100.000.0162	Supplies	\$500.00	\$500.00
7.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.20200.000.0162	Supplies	\$500.00	\$500.00
8.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.30400.000.0162	Other	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
9.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.32525.000.0162	Other	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
10.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.39400.000.0162	Other	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
11.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.39402.000.0162	Other	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
12.	Drug Court (Opioid)	4021.39403.000.0162	Other	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

Dated this 21st day of January 2025.

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh
/s/ David Cox
/s/ Larry R. Hesson
/s/ Larry R. Scott
/s/ Eric Wathen
/s/ Charles Parsons
/s/ David Wyeth

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

IN THE MATTER OF THE REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Eric Wathen motioned, and David Wyeth seconded to approve the Reallocation of Funds number 1 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

REALLOCATION OF FUNDS RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the County Council of Hendricks County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the unit of Government of Hendricks County, the following sums of money previously appropriated for expenditures from a detailed account within a major classification, are hereby reallocated to another detailed account within a different classification as originally appropriated, all as herein specified.

	DEPARTMENT	FROM	TO	AMOUNT	Y/N
1.	Clerk	1001.14613.000.0146	1001.10112.000.0101	539.21	Y

Dated this 21st day of January 2025.

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh
/s/ David Cox
/s/ Larry R. Hesson
/s/ Larry R. Scott
/s/ Eric Wathen

/s/ Charles Parsons
/s/ David Wyeth

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

OTHER BUSINESS

The Sheriff's Commissary Fund Report for 7/1/24-12/31/24 was presented and acknowledged. David Wyeth asked if the planned trip to Washington D.C. would come from that, and Sheriff Jack Sadler confirmed it would. The Sheriff's Jail Meal Breakdown for 12/28/23-12/25/24 was presented and acknowledged.

The Health First CY2025 Budget Allocation was presented. It was asked what the term was on the grant and Health Director, Krista Click, stated it was a 2-year grant. Budget was acknowledged.

The Community Corrections CY2025 Payment Schedule and Innkeepers Fund Report for 6/1/24-11/30/24 were presented without comment.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Eric Wathen informed the Council that he had filed a conflict-of-interest form due to the nature of his business.

Larry Hesson distributed information on proposed Senate Bill 1. It was discussed that the bill would bring about a loss of \$211 million net revenue to Hendricks County. He expressed concern that this could hurt the County financially if this were to pass. The County Council Association is taking the position of opposition to Senate Bill 1. He recommended others to contact their representatives to express their concern and disapproval of said Bill. David Wyeth questioned how it was formulated as it appeared we would lose more than other counties our size.

Charles Parsons brought a letter to the Council from AT&T. They are requesting county support to get a grant for expanding internet through broadband. Commissioner Denis Dawes confirmed the Commissioners did not sign said letter. Commissioner Brad Whicker suggested a presentation might be helpful for such an ask.

Auditor Ann Stark stated she was happy to be here. She stated if the Council needed anything they could email her. She looks forward to working with everyone.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Scott at 9:58 a.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Motion carried 7-0.

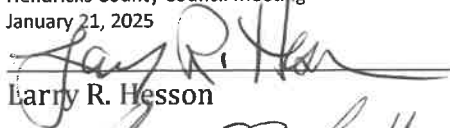
HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL

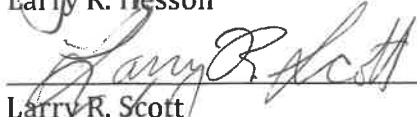



Nancy Marsh



David Cox


Larry R. Hesson


Larry R. Scott


Eric Wathen


Charles Parsons


David Wyeth

absent AS

ATTEST:


Ann Stark, Hendricks County Auditor