

**HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MAY 20, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by President Larry Scott on Tuesday May 20th, 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. David Cox led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APRIL 20, 2025 COUNCIL MINUTES

Nancy Marsh requested the approval amounts be filled in for the appropriation listings as well as the yay/nay for the transfers. Marsh moved to approve the amended minutes. Larry Hesson seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CUMMINS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

Amy Mace, President and CEO of Cummins Behavioral Health Systems presented their 2024 annual report. The report showed that patient satisfaction with Cummins was higher than the state average. In 2024, 1,743 people were served, most being self-referrals or CPS referrals. Medicaid contributed 88% of the revenue for 2024. New law would make it difficult for patients to stay on Medicaid, but Amy confirmed they have contracted with a company that will work with patients to help re-enroll them as needed.

IN THE MATTER OF THE DANVILLE LITTLE HOUSE FOUNDATION

Representative, Janet Myers, presented a capital campaign to raise \$250,000 to help restore the Little House with necessary improvements. The Danville Little House has been a space where local Girl Scouts gather, grow, and give back for 75 years. They accept donations of money, materials, and skilled services. David Cox motioned to use the Food and Beverage fund to contribute \$5,000 to the campaign. Chuck Parsons seconded. Larry Hesson expressed concern about using taxpayer money for a community organization, Dave Wyeth joined with concern that other organizations would then have precedent to come ask for donations using taxpayer money. Larry Scott called for a vote. Two (2) voted in favor of donating the money, consisting of David Cox and Chuck Parsons. Five (5) voted against. Motion failed.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HENDRICKS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS PROJECT

Fairboard member, Tim Whicker presented the proposed capital improvement plan for the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. CSL consulted on the project and provided a comprehensive plan for renovations and additions. Plan includes building a new indoor meeting space and additional parking. This plan is not to be confused with the current voting machine storage plan, which is already in motion. Banning and arcDesign came up with an estimated project cost of \$17,979,053.

IN THE MATTER OF THE VISIT HENDRICKS COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

CEO, Jaime Bohler Smith spoke about the annual report findings for Visit Hendricks County. Visit Hendricks County brings in money from outside visitors to support our economy, including employment of over 4,000 jobs. 2023 had a 5% increase in spending from the previous year. The bureau spent 2024 surveying residents and visitors with hopes to continue making Hendricks County a great place to live and visit.

IN THE MATTER OF FUTURE FUNDING OF RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY

Greg Guerrettaz and Adam Steuerwald have been communicating about SEA 1 law in regard to financing the extension of Ronald Reagan project that is already in motion. He confirmed that the best option for financing the Ronald Reagan extension would be to issue a bond through the Redevelopment Authority with the following as security: Pledge of TIF from the Ronald Reagan Allocation Area, Any other revenues appropriated each year by the County Council, and if TIF is insufficient and no other revenues are appropriated, then a special benefits tax. The County Council could use LIT each year along with the TIF to pay the debt service. More discussion will be had at the capital improvement meeting in June. It was encouraged to speak with Senator Jeff Thompson about our concerns.

IN THE MATTER OF LIT REVIEW

Greg Guerrettaz estimates LIT revenue with the LIT tax rate of 1.2% would bring in \$67,242,312. Over the next few years, the circuit breaker will be impacted, and the county will lose revenue due to the new homestead credit. Since Hendricks County has a lot of people who live and work here, we can recoup that money from LIT. The key will be to make smart capital improvement decisions going forward.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMERGENCY ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

The public hearing was opened for the Emergency Appropriation Resolution of May 20, 2025. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed. Eric Wathen motioned to approve items numbered one-eight (1-8) requesting additional appropriations. David Cox seconded. It was noted in regard to item number eight (8) that the funding for Link Hendricks County was appropriated into the wrong fund and had to be reappropriated for the correct fund. The motion was amended to include the reduction of fund 8106. 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
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	DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	APPROVED
1.	Work Release	1001.XXXXX.000.0156	County General	\$1,009,305	\$1,009,305
2.	Court Administration	1001.37315.153.0160	Computer Programming	\$10,000	\$10,000
3.	Engineering	1138.41000.000.0143	ROW Costs	\$800,000	\$800,000
4.	Engineering	1138.45367.000.0143	Cume Cap	\$850,000	\$850,000
5.	Probation	2005.30500.000.0151	Education/Travel	\$10,000	\$10,000
6.	Probation	2504.30702.000.0151	Interpreters	\$2,500	\$2,500
7.	Probation	4922.20107.000.0151	Bullet Proof Vests	\$3,000	\$3,000
8.	Auditor	8108.32108.000.0102	Link Hendricks County	\$436,029	\$436,029
9.	Auditor	8106.32108.000.0102	Link Hendricks County	(\$461,100.57)	(\$461,100.57)

Approved this 20th day of May, 2025.

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh

/s/ David Cox

/s/ David Wyeth

~~/s/ Larry R. Hesson~~ Absent

/s/ Larry R. Scott

/s/ Eric Wathen

/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

IN THE MATTER OF THE REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Dave Wyeth motioned and Nancy Marsh seconded to approve the transfer item. Motion passed 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.	Highway	1169.20401.002.0201	1169.36602.000.0201	\$80,000	Y

Approved this 20th day of May, 2025

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh

/s/ David Wyeth

/s/ David Cox

/s/ Larry R. Hesson
/s/ Larry R. Scott
/s/ Eric Wathen
/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

OTHER BUSINESS

The status of funds was acknowledged.

The 2025 Circuit Breaker Report was acknowledged.

The 2025 Supplemental LIT distribution report was acknowledged.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Nancy Marsh attended the Tox-Away Day as a volunteer. It was busy and could see how worthwhile it was.

Eric Wathen met with the Hendricks County Communications Board. The dispatch group is still understaffed. There is also a potential problem with the future of the phone systems. The state back up system is moving to a different system that won't be able to communicate with us. We will need to look at upgrading or switching to a new system in the future.

Larry Hesson reminded everyone to sign up for the state-called council conference on June 20-21st.


Financial Administrator, Paula Alkire stated that the grant for community corrections and probation will be reduced next year. We will have to budget for that.

Attorney, Rhonda Cook gave a presentation on some of the new legislature.


Lora Helmick, director of the Washington Township Park introduced herself and expressed concern over SEA 1. She wanted to make sure the County Council recognized the park for the good they provide to the county. They will be in eight (8) elementary schools next year to provide before and after school care. They also have an ADA-accessible water park as well as the largest fire department in the county.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Scott at 10:58 a.m., Tuesday, May 20th, 2025.


HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL



Nancy Marsh



David Cox



Absent
Larry Hesson

Larry R. Hesson



Larry R. Scott

Eric Wathen



Charles Parsons

Charles Parsons



David Wyeth

ATTEST:



Ann Stark, Hendricks County Auditor