



HENDRICKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS **MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 MEETING**

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The Hendricks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 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:

Dennis W. Dawes	Commissioner, President
Bob Gentry	Commissioner, Vice President
Brad Whicker	Commissioner
R. Todd McCormack	Executive Director
Mila M. Shaffer	Administration and Public Affairs
Graham Youngs	County Attorney
Chelsi Collins	Chief Deputy Auditor
Jack Sadler	Sheriff
John Ayers	Engineer
Doug Morris	I.T. Director
Paul Weddle	Facilities Manager (Interim)
Erin Hughes	Human Resources Administrator
Tim Dombrosky	Planning & Building Director
Mark Chmielewski	Government Center Security Deputy
Ryan Lemley	Parks & Recreation Superintendent

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

Commissioner Dawes opened the Meeting at 9:03 AM with a quorum of all three (3) Commissioners present, led the Pledge of Allegiance in unison, and gave a brief prayer for those who wished to participate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2025 COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Minutes of the August 26, 2025 Commissioners' Meeting as presented. Commissioner Whicker seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve Check Number 110624, Direct Deposit Numbers 267555-268108, and Budgetary Claims presented from the Auditor's Office for the period beginning August 28, 2025 and ending September 10, 2025. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF BRIDGE NO. 39 ENCROACHMENT CONSENT

Jon Ayers reported the item needed to be tabled again while he awaits a response from Citizens Energy's counsel.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners to table the matter.

IN THE MATTER OF HEARTLAND CROSSING PUD

Jeff Banning, Banning Engineering, requested clarification from when he attended the October 22, 2024

Commissioners' Meeting regarding Hendricks County's involvement in the three county PUD zoning ordinance (Hendricks, Marion, and Morgan) from 25+ years ago for Heartland Crossing (Cedar Run). Jeff Banning reported the original PUD approval required the golf course, that's entirely in Morgan County, to serve as the dedicated greenspace for the entire three county development to allow them to meet density. Jeff Banning advised the current owner of the golf course has filed a petition with Morgan County to reduce the golf course from an 18-hole course to a 9-hole course and add housing where the golf course is being eliminated.

There was lengthy discussion amongst the Commissioners, Graham Youngs, John Ayers, Tim Dombrosky, and Jeff Banning regarding the matter. John Ayers pointed out that the golf course was designated to remain as greenspace for the entire development, despite the golf course itself being solely in Morgan County. Jeff Banning advised that approximately 30% of the portion of the golf course being taken will remain greenspace. Tim Dombrosky advised this is a procedural question of the cross-jurisdictional zoning approval that was done 25+ years ago where all three counties had a say so in what was developed in this PUD, and the question is if all three counties need to have a say so in amending this same PUD now and/or in the future. Commissioner Whicker advised the golf course is solely in Morgan County and personally does not want a say in what Morgan County does. John Ayers advised he knows it's a procedural question but his personal opinion is the greenspace was a major point of emphasis for the PUD's approval and thinks the merits of the development do need to be considered, and not just the procedural, because the whole thing was predicated on the basis of the golf course being the dedicated greenspace for the entire development. John Ayers inquired how many acres of the greenspace being reduced. Jeff Banning stated the area being discussed is about 200 acres, the portion remaining golf course/greenspace is about 80 acres, and about 120 acres are being converted. Jeff Banning advised that of the 120 acres, about 40 acres of it will become common area. John Ayers stated he still thinks the merits of the greenspace still need to be considered to see if the remaining acreage is adequate enough to offset Hendricks County's share of the PUD. Graham Youngs advised both procedural options are defensible, and it would be nice to have a paper trail of what we're doing here from a procedural perspective, but the area in question is all in Morgan County and they have some concerns about enforceability. Tim Dombrosky advised the County's concerns lie with the greenspace available to the residents of the PUD in the Hendricks County portion. Commissioner Gentry inquired who is ultimately going to decide this amendment to the PUD. Jeff Banning stated that's what he's here to try and figure out is how they procedurally want it done; both counties decide or just Morgan County decides. Commissioner Whicker and Commissioner Dawes advised they don't want to stand in the way. Tim Dombrosky advised one option that he discussed with Greg Steuerwald and Graham Youngs is to see what Morgan County does first and if it the golf course remains, okay but if not, the County needs to look for a solution to remedy the greenspace requirement somewhere in Hendricks County.

Commissioner Dawes moved to let Morgan County handle it and hear back what their decision was and then decide if we need to do something with it or not. Jeff Banning requested for clarity that the Commissioners' motion state specifically if they do or do not want to be part of the approval process. Commissioner Dawes amended his motion and moved to let Morgan County hand it and that Hendricks County does not want to be part of the approval process. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF LINK 5307 AND 5311 SECOND QUARTER CLAIMS

Stacie Ware, LINK, presented their 5307 and 5311 Second Quarter Claim Vouchers totaling \$430,619.68 and requested approval.

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve the Claims as presented. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and inquired if the issue of getting the funds to Senior Services quicker had been corrected. Stacie Ware advised they are updating their processes and introduced Sycamore Services' new CFO, Tony Hamlin. The motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF LINK FISCAL YEAR 2025 CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

Stacie Ware, LINK, presented the INDOT Fiscal Year 2025 Certifications and Assurances for their grants and requested approval. Stacie Ware advised that when they applied for their 2025-2026 grant earlier this year these had not been made available and they will replace the 2024 ones that were signed.

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve the 2025 Certifications and Assurances as presented. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS NEEDED FOR GRANT MATCH

Amy Mace, Cummins Behavioral Health, requested National Opioid Settlement funds totaling \$108,153.00 from July 1, 2026-June 30, 2028 for a one-for-one match of grant funds from the FSSA Division of Mental Health and Addiction to provide transportation services for individuals in recovery. Amy Mace advised that allowable transportation services include roundtrip service to places of employment, substance use and mental health appointments, court appointments, and engagements intended to improve the overall wellbeing as it relates to an individual's recovery. Amy Mace stated a stipulation of the grant is that the match funds must come from local distributions from the National Opioid Settlement.

Commissioner Gentry inquired if the Commissioners have authority to award these funds or would it be the Council. Mila Shaffer advised that with the Opioid Settlement funds, the Commissioners send a recommendation to the Council for any disbursements and then the Council would finalize them.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Dawes advised there have been other discussions regarding other future uses of these designated funds and inquired if Cummins has discussed with LINK them providing the services for them. Amy Mace stated they have not and advised that Cummins already has a van that they use for these services. Commissioner Whicker seconded the motion for more discussion and suggested tabling it since they have some time before the October 6, 2025 filing deadline to allow them more time to decide the best use of the future Opioid Settlement funds. Commissioner Gentry stated that doing so makes sense and he and Commissioner Whicker withdrew their motions. It was the consensus of the Commissioners to table the matter until the next meeting to review the other requests for use of the same funds.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH AND
PLACEMENT OF AWARENESS SIGNS**

Chase Cotten, The Willow Center, presented the Proclamation to proclaim September as National Recovery Month and requested approval of it and permission to place awareness signs around the Courthouse Square.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Proclamation and signs as requested. Commissioner Whicker seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED TOWN OF CENTER VALLEY IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Commissioner Dawes reported this matter was being postponed until a future meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF SELF-INSURED UPDATE

John Parmley, EPIC Insurance, provided a self-insured update and stated his preliminary recommendation is to incrementally increase retentions with Travelers. John Parmley reported the biggest open issue is vehicle physical damage coverage and increasing retentions will reduce premiums while allowing the County to test the program before moving to a fully self-insured program.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Todd McCormack, and John Parmley regarding the matter and John Parmley pointed out that his numbers do not reflect claims not turned into insurance. Commissioner Dawes inquired if Todd McCormack had any input to add. Todd McCormack stated he agrees and does not think the County is ready to self-insure at this point. Todd McCormack advised he and Mila Shaffer have talked about increasing the deductibles and thinks that it may be the best move now because we do pay for a lot of accidents that never hit the insurance company. John Parmley advised he will get firm numbers from Travelers with increased retentions and report back the findings.

**IN THE MATTER OF RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY PHASE 1B
AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT AMENDMENT NO. 7**

John Ayers presented the American Structurepoint Amendment No. 7 to the Owner-Engineer Agreement for the Ronald Reagan Parkway Phase 1B and recommended approval. John Ayers advised there is no change to the

total cost of the Agreement, just a reallocation of the fee amounts within the service categories.

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve the Amendment as recommended. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and inquired if this has anything to do with inspections. John Ayers stated it did not. The motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF 2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Commissioner Dawes advised Mila Shaffer prepared three options for the Hendricks County Government 2026 Holiday Schedule and presented their recommended option for approval.

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve the 2026 Holiday Schedule as recommended. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0. Commissioner Dawes stated the Schedule should put a smile on the employees' faces. Mila Shaffer thanked the Commissioners for approving it.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mike Starkey, Brownsburg resident, reported he's had discussions with John Ayers regarding the Ronald Reagan Parkway extensions, the concerns of closed roads and detours during harvest, and being able to go north. Mike Starkey expressed his frustrations with the current contractor working on other jobs instead of getting this phase finished and suggested the County consider incentives on future contracts for the project to dangle a carrot in front of the contractor to get it finished early because closing 900 is a big concern. Mike Starkey also suggested the County redo 86th Street before the next phase of the Parkway to avoid a train wreck with all the construction going on in that area.

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

No matters presented.

IN THE MATTER OF THE RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY PHASE 1A

John Ayers reported he has been trying for months to get the project done and the contractor has been non-receptive and he has made it clear to them that the County will not entertain any type of extensions or concessions for completion because they have had plenty of time to complete it. John Ayers stated next time he will tighten up the contract completion time and advised the County has never offered an incentive for completion before because it can get expensive, but he is willing to consider it if the Commissioners would like. John Ayers advised that there will be times during construction of the next phase that they will have to close parts of CR 900 but will look at their traffic plan to see if there's times when the closure can be restricted.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and John Ayers regarding the matter. Commissioner Dawes stated the County has learned lots from this phase of the project and will have upfront discussions with the next contractor to make sure they understand the concerns of the citizens and farmers. John Ayers stated this ultimately comes back to the contract language. Commissioner Gentry and Commissioner Whicker advised they are not opposed to considering an incentive for future contracts and think it's a skilled labor shortage issue.

IN THE MATTER OF URBAN SDK SOFTWARE

John Ayers reported Engineering, Highway, and the Sheriff have been looking at software from Urban SDK that allows them access to current (within two weeks) traffic data including counts, speeds, and classifications and it's a very usable product that would greatly increase their efficiency for traffic studies, investigations, etc. via tracking devices (vehicle GPS, cell phones, etc.). John Ayers advised the routine two-year and spot traffic counts are currently being done by an employee in his office and this product would eliminate the need of that person to do the routine counts. John Ayers stated the pricing is based upon the terms and varies from \$25,725 for one year, \$23,152 per year for three years, or if paid up front for three years at \$21,166 per year totaling \$63,498 that would be split between Engineering, Highway, and the Sheriff if allowed to move ahead.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Sheriff Jack Sadler, and John Ayers regarding the matter. Commissioner Whicker advised he's apprehensive to pay three years up front for a product that we've never used

and may not wish to continue with after a year and thinks they could negotiate different terms to terminate if it wasn't working well for the County. Commissioner Gentry inquired if the software shows the destination of the vehicles, which is something he gets asked about a lot. John Ayers stated he does not think this does, but there are other products that can do this by tracking license plate numbers. Sheriff Sadler advised his office has used the software multiple times during a testing phase to help them with complaints regarding speeders and perceived speeders in particular areas and it helped them a lot by allowing them to address the matters much sooner.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners for John Ayers to move ahead with obtaining a contract for them to consider but requested he continue to negotiate the terms of the contract to be more favorable to the County.

IN THE MATTER OF LTAP SNOWPLOW ROADEO

John Ayers reported two Highway Department employees, Austin Pitcher and Josh Payne, won the tandem truck category at the LTAP Snowplow Rodeo last week. The Commissioners congratulated them on their victory.

IN THE MATTER OF SR 240 CLOSURE

John Ayers reported he met with INDOT, Putnam County Highway, and the Putnam County Sheriff two weeks ago at old SR240 and US 40 to work out the details of Putnam County's requested closure of the portion of old SR 240 east of SR 75 to US 40 (aka County Road 200 S) that was first discussed last year (September 10, 2024). John Ayers advised Putnam County really wants to move forward and are going to do the physical work since the intersection is in their County, we're doing the INDOT permitting, and INDOT will do advance notice and signage changes and recommended approval to move forward. John Ayers stated he has seen some of the correspondence in opposition to the closing, but all agencies agree it will be a safety improvement and think accident histories will back this up, and any public notice or hearings would be up to Putnam County (if any are required).

It was the consensus of the Commissioners to move ahead with the closure and not stand in their way.

IN THE MATTER OF STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS AND "PROCUREMENT POLICIES"

Todd McCormack reported the Auditor reached out to him regarding "procurement policies" the Commissioners may have, specifically for purchases below \$150,000 and above \$150,000 as State Board of Accounts (SBOA) was requesting them from her. Todd McCormack advised the past Auditor reportedly took the position that the County followed State law regarding those purchases, but that appears it may no longer be an acceptable response. Todd McCormack stated he reached out to several other counties and discovered that other central Indiana counties were being asked for the same from SBOA, with Morgan County stating SBOA wants a policy on purchasing and one on how services will be awarded from them as well. Todd McCormack advised that Andrew Klinger, Plainfield Town Manager, is an attorney and is drafting a procurement policy for the Town that he will share with him and inquired if the Commissioners would like to work on their own policy or stay on the same course as the past Auditor.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and Todd McCormack regarding the matter. Commissioner Dawes reported he'd like to see what Plainfield comes up with but this doesn't seem to be a requirement. Todd McCormack stated the important thing is that the County continues to follow the law as they have been doing. Commissioner Gentry stated the County should stay the same. Commissioner Whicker stated he's not opposed to it but it's got to have some common sense to it and thinks they should wait to see what Andrew Klinger comes up with. Commissioner Gentry stated it would have to be a very convincing policy for him.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners to review the policy Andrew Klinger comes up with.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

No matters presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dawes reported the Opioid Settlement funds briefly talked about earlier in the meeting have been discussed with the Prosecutor's Office regarding them being utilized to continue funding the Drug Task Force and recommended the Commissioners keep moving in that direction for the future use of those funds.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Todd McCormack, Sheriff Jack Sadler, and Mila Shaffer regarding the matter and Mila Shaffer suggested Amy Mace reach out to the Towns to see if they have any remaining Opioid Settlement funds that they would be willing to contribute towards her grant match. Todd McCormack advised he hadn't read through the grant enough to see if it had to be County Opioid Settlement funds or if it could be from the ones the Towns received or a combination of both. Commissioner Dawes requested Todd McCormack and Mila Shaffer look into that and get back with Amy Mace to let her know.

IN THE MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

STAFF REPORTS RECEIVED

1. Engineering Department Report of September 9, 2025 from John Ayers
2. Executive Director Report of September 9, 2025 from Todd McCormack
3. I.T. Department Report of September 9, 2025 from Doug Morris
4. Facilities Department Report of September 9, 2025 from Paul Weddle
5. HR Report of August 23-September 5, 2025 from Erin Hughes
6. Parks & Recreation Report of September 5, 2025 from Ryan Lemley

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

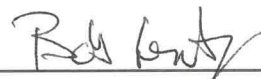
1. Notice of Public Hearing by the Brownsburg Board of Zoning Appeals for BZDV-25-3 and BZDV-25-4, 1005 S. Odell Street, from Brownsburg Community School Corporation
2. Notice of Tort Claim from Hensley Legal Group representing Humberto Rene Deleon
3. Notice of Tort Claim from Ken Nunn Law Office representing Ashley R. Vardaman, Jerry Vardaman, and Hunter Vardaman

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

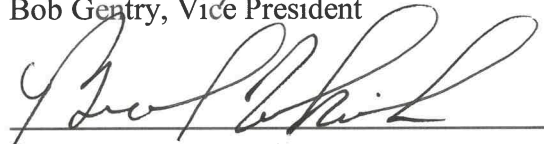
Commissioner Dawes moved to adjourn the Hendricks County Commissioners' Meeting at 10:32 AM on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.



Dennis W. Dawes, President

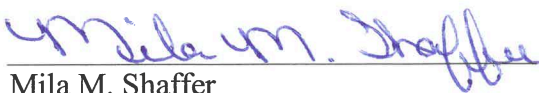


Bob Gentry, Vice President



Brad Whicker, Member

Prepared by:


Mila M. Shaffer