



HENDRICKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2025 MEETING

**FULL AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE AT
[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@HENDRICKSCOGOV](http://www.youtube.com/@hendrickscogov)**

The Hendricks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, October 14, 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
Mila M. Shaffer	Administration and Public Affairs
Greg Steuerwald	County Attorney
Ann Stark	Auditor
John Ayers	Engineer
Dan Chubb	Coroner
Scott Larsen	Merit Chief Deputy
Doug Morris	I.T. Director
Paul Weddle	Facilities Manager
Erin Hughes	Human Resources Administrator
Chad Boruff	Chief Probation Officer
Brian Day	Assistant Chief Probation Officer
Ryan Lemley	Parks & Recreation Superintendent

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

Commissioner Dawes opened the Meeting at 9:00 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 SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 COMMISSIONERS' MEETING AND OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 COMMISSIONERS' EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve the Minutes of the September 23, 2025 Commissioners' Meeting and of the September 26, 2025 Commissioners' Executive Session as presented. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioner Whicker moved to approve Check Number 110627, Direct Deposit Numbers 268659-269215, and Budgetary Claims presented from the Auditor's Office for the period beginning September 25, 2025 and ending October 15, 2025. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR COUNTY MAINTENANCE OF PETREE COURT

Carey Rudicel, 3438 Petree Court in Danville, and Virginia Smith, 3449 Petree Court in Danville, presented a petition from Petree Court residents and a Letter of Support from Senator Brett Clark and requested the County take over the maintenance of Petree Court. Carey Rudicel reported the road is in extreme disrepair and ownership of the road cannot be determined.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Greg Steuerwald, John Ayers, Carey Rudicel, and Virginia Smith regarding the matter and the unknown ownership history of the road and why the road isn't part of the County's inventory. John Ayers stated that in the past, roads had to be up to the County's standards before they were taken into the inventory, and advised Lee Comer did a lot of work trying to track down the ownership and transfer history of Petree Court and ultimately came to a dead end. John Ayers stated the quandary is that the County cannot use road tax money on roads not in the County's inventory. Commissioner Whicker stated we shouldn't penalize the residents for the road failing to be taken into the inventory after the development and it should be maintained to the same standards as any other County road in the inventory. Greg Steuerwald stated it would be nice to know who owns the road, but there is nothing in the records to indicate it, and wishes we could have something to establish that for the record. Commissioner Whicker inquired if it was possible to go through the condemnation process since there is no history. John Ayers advised that it could be done by public notice (advertising) when we can't track down the legal owner. Commissioner Whicker recommended the County start that process. Greg Steuerwald suggested having each property owner do a quitclaim deed to the County. Commissioner Dawes inquired about using ARPA interest, if available, to make repairs to the road once it is in the County's inventory. Ann Stark advised there should be enough ARPA interest remaining, as long as it's under \$40,000.00 for the work, and will look into how much is remaining.

Commissioner Whicker moved to take the steps to acquire ownership of Petree Court, begin preparations to make improvements to it, and add it to the County's snowplow list. Commissioner Gentry stated he couldn't agree more and seconded the motion. Commissioner Whicker requested Carey Rudicel and Virginia Smith speak with the other property owners to let them know what is happening, so they are aware, to help make sure there is no resistance. Carey Rudicel and Virginia Smith stated they would let them know and did not think there would be resistance from anyone. Greg Steuerwald advised they would need to provide him with the names and addresses for all property owners. Commissioner Dawes requested they give that information to Mila Shaffer. Commissioner Gentry advised he did some work on this road himself in the past and the issue is that the roadside drainage is inadequate and causes potholes. The motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0. Commissioner Gentry requested they notify Denny Williams as well. Commissioner Dawes thanked Senator Clark for his involvement.

IN THE MATTER OF LINK SECTION 5339 CLAIM VOUCHER & PROPOSED FARE INCREASE

Stacie Ware requested the support of the Commissioners to increase LINK fares beginning January 1, 2026 from \$3.00 per stop within town limits and \$4.00 per stop outside town limits to \$6.00 per stop within town limits and \$8.00 per stop outside; riders age 60 and up will continue to ride for free. Stacie Ware advised LINK has not increased their fares in 20 years.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners and Stacie Ware regarding the matter and Commissioner Whicker suggested LINK look into creating a fare matrix for inflation for future years to keep up with inflation.

Commissioner Gentry moved to support LINK's fare increase as presented. Commissioner Whicker seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

Stacie Ware presented the INDOT Section 5339 Claim Voucher 90815-2025 for \$226,934.00 for replacement vehicles and requested approval. Stacie Ware advised part of the local match is being covered by insurance.

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

IN THE MATTER OF 2026 ERT TRAINING AND LODGING PROPOSALS

Chief Deputy Scott Larsen presented the 2026 ERT Training and Lodging Proposals totaling \$12,180.00 and requested approval.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF BI INCORPORATED OMNIA PARTNERS
ELECTRONIC MONITORING SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Chad Boruff presented the BI Incorporated Omnia Partners Electronic Monitoring Service Agreement and requested approval. Chad Boruff advised the updated Agreement saves the County \$1.45 per alcohol monitor per day and \$1.10 per GPS monitor per day that will result in a savings of approximately \$100,000.00 annually.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH
PUTNAM COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE**

Dan Chubb presented the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Hendricks County Coroner's Office and the Putnam County Coroner's Office and requested approval. Dan Chubb stated Putnam County wants to start bringing their autopsies to Hendricks County and advised he is working on a fee ordinance with Greg Steuerwald.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF 2026 COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT APPLICATION
LETTER OF SUPPORT**

John Ayers presented the 2026 Community Crossings Grant Application Letter of Support and recommended approval.

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

IN THE MATTER OF CULVERT DESIGN AGREEMENTS

John Ayers presented the CrossRoad Engineers Agreements for Engineering Services for the design of Culvert BN-013 for an amount not to exceed \$49,200.00, Culvert FR-043/FR-044 for an amount not to exceed \$161,225.00, Culvert LB-082 for an amount not to exceed \$146,807.00, Culvert LI-015 for an amount not to exceed \$48,000.00, Culvert LI-024 for an amount not to exceed \$47,800.00, and Culvert WA-053 for an amount not to exceed \$50,200.00 and recommended approval. John Ayers advised a culvert is defined as anything smaller than a twenty-foot span, and that for most culvert replacements the County performs the design and construction in-house.

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

Commissioner Whicker moved to follow the recommendation of John Ayers and approve the Agreements. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and inquired if they were taking drainage into the equation. John Ayers stated yes. The motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF MARATHON PIPELINE ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT

John Ayers recommended the item be tabled while he awaits some information for the Agreement.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF NATURAL GAS SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR
NEW HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FACILITY**

John Ayers presented the CenterPoint Energy Five and One Half Year Minimum Use Contract for Gas Service for an estimated \$254,493.35 to run the natural gas service line to the new Highway Department Facility and recommended approval. John Ayers advised CenterPoint Energy will be obtaining all the required easements and will credit the County back for any gas sold off the service line during the five and one half years of the Contract.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, Greg Steuerwald, John Ayers, and Dan Zuerner (Garmon) regarding the matter, CenterPoint's calculation of reimbursement rate, and how to pay the Agreement; pay up front or possibly a letter of credit. Dan Zuerner advised it could be pulled from the construction contingency and stated the County doesn't have much time to sit on it since there is currently no service line to the new facility.

Commissioner Gentry moved to approve the Agreement as recommended with payment from the construction bond proceeds. Commissioner Whicker seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

No matters presented

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

No matters presented.

IN THE MATTER OF RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY PHASE 1B CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION

John Ayers reported review of the three proposals for construction inspection on the Ronald Reagan Parkway Phase 1B has been completed and recommended entering into fee negotiations with United Consulting.

Commissioner Gentry moved to follow the recommendation proceeding with United Consulting. Commissioner Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.

IN THE MATTER OF RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY PHASE 1A

John Ayers inquired if the Commissioners would like to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Phase 1A of the Ronald Reagan Parkway that is scheduled to be completed on or before November 17, 2025.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners for John Ayers to plan a ribbon cutting ceremony.

John Ayers reported the County is negotiating with White Construction and IMI to jointly fund application of a sealant to the new Ronald Reagan Parkway bridge due to a statewide cracking issue with new concrete bridge decks and stated the exact causes of the cracking is as of yet unknown. John Ayers advised the work was done per INDOT specs, but the cracking has caused INDOT to direct entities to delay final acceptance of bridge decks for a year, or the County can accept them early if they want to. John Ayers stated he does not recommend accepting it early, but would like to get a good seal on it as an insurance policy, with the cost for the sealant being shared. John Ayers advised concrete experts and consultants had concurred.

There was discussion amongst the Commissioners, John Ayers, and Chris Pope (United Consulting) regarding the matter. Commissioner Whicker recommended the Commissioners provide John Ayers with some discretion for once he gets some agreement from White Construction and IMI and inquired what the cost share might be. John Ayers advised he's hoping for a three-way split, but stated it might be 50/50 because IMI doesn't seem to be wanting to participate.

Commissioner Whicker stated he's in agreement to proceed with the sealant but would rather the County not pay for half of it. Commissioner Dawes and Commissioner Gentry agreed with Commissioner Whicker.

IN THE MATTER OF SR 240 CLOSURE

John Ayers reported he's been working with Putnam County and INDOT on their closure of the intersection of County Line Road/SR 240 and US 40 and advised INDOT analyzed the intersection of SR 75 at US 40 and determined it will warrant a traffic signal after the closure due to the traffic volumes. John Ayers advised that signal needs to be installed prior to the closure of the intersection, so the work is on hold until INDOT has it installed. John Ayers stated it is a safety issue and the accident history supports the closure, along with the Putnam County Sheriff, the Hendricks County Sheriff, and INDOT being adamant that it is a safety issue.

IN THE MATTER OF TAX SALE PARCELS

Commissioner Dawes reported two parcels that did not sell at the tax sale, Tax ID No. 017-211512-100010 and

Tax ID No. 021-236511-100025, could be beneficial to the County and inquired if the Commissioners would like to proceed with the process of having those parcels deeded to the County. One borders a property the County already owns and the other is next to a County bridge that could be useful as right-of-way.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners to proceed with taking over those two parcels that did not sell.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

No matters presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dawes reported he, the Auditor, the Council President, the County's financial advisor, and some others were on a call yesterday with the bond rating S&P for the Ronald Reagan Parkway extension bonds. Commissioners Dawes thanked them and advised he believes the County will continue with their good rating.

IN THE MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE

STAFF REPORTS RECEIVED

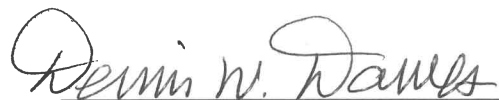
1. Engineering Department Report of October 14, 2025 from John Ayers
2. Executive Director Report of October 14, 2025 from Todd McCormack
3. Facilities Department Report of October 14, 2025 from Paul Weddle
4. HR Report of September 19-October 10, 2025 from Erin Hughes
5. Highway Department Report of September 15-19, 2025, September 23-26, 2025, and September 29-October 3, 2025 from Curt Higginbotham
6. Parks & Recreation Report of October 8, 2025 from Ryan Lemley

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. Letter from Milton and Estelle Graham regarding drainage
2. Notice of Tort Claim from Lee Cossell & Feagley representing Amber Dillehay, mother of Makiah Burris
3. Notice of Tort Claim from The Spiess Law Firm representing Milton and Estelle Graham

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

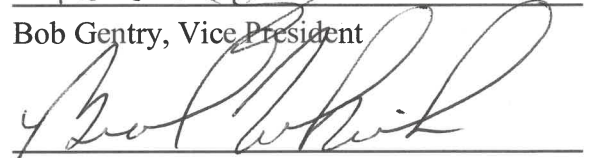
Commissioner Dawes moved to adjourn the Hendricks County Commissioners' Meeting at 9:55 AM on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. Commissioner Gentry seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously 3-0-0.



Dennis W. Dawes, President

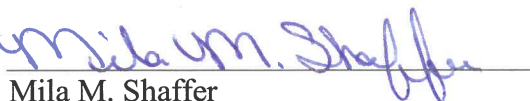


Bob Gentry, Vice President



Brad Whicker, Member

Prepared by:



Mila M. Shaffer