

**MINUTES  
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NOVEMBER 18, 2024  
9:00 A.M.**

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting: Brenda Hardy, Aaron Fruits and Tim Shumaker.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve the minutes of the Commissioner’s meeting of November 4, 2024 and the Executive Session on November 7, 2024 as presented. Vote: 3-0

**CLAIMS 1–152 (\$305,836.10) and Payroll Claims**

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve all claims. Vote: 3-0

**Report of Collections – as submitted**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to acknowledge the Report of Collections for the Ambulance, Clerk, Health Department, Recorder and Sheriff for October. Vote: 3-0

**Review & Acknowledge Clerk’s Monthly Report for October 2024**

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to acknowledge the Clerk’s Monthly Report for October, 2024. Vote: 3-0

**Review and Acknowledge Treasurer’s Bank Reconciliation & Monthly Comparison Report**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to acknowledge the Treasurer’s Bank Reconciliation for October 2024 along with the Monthly Fund Comparison Report. Vote: 3-0

**Wabash River Greenway Project – Five Crossings Park**

Dale White would like to follow up on his email from November 15. He requested an appropriation for \$450,000 for the Wabash River Greenway Project. The Community Foundation Board completed the process of permitting and the feasibility study. They will act upon the bids received for the project tomorrow. He asked if the Commissioners would once again be willing to approve an appropriation for the project in the amount of \$450,000 for 2025. A motion was made by Tim Shumaker to approve the appropriation. Aaron Fruits seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0

**Mutual Release & Settlement Agreement – Envoy**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve the Mutual Release and Settlement Agreement with Envoy. Vote: 3-0

**Ameresco – Invoice #ARFINV-1029362 dated 6/12/2024**

Brenda Hardy explained that the Commissioners had signed an agreement with Ameresco for \$17,500. The amount would be written into the ESA agreement. If there was no ESA agreement the County would have to pay the amount of the agreement. A motion was made by Aaron Fruits to approve the payment of the Ameresco invoice in the amount of \$10,000. Vote: 3-0

**Childcare – READI Grant**

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the funding in the amount of \$23,950 for the ReadI Grant – Childcare for 2024 and 2025 for a total of \$47,900. Vote: 3-0

**WEGA – Addendum 1**

**Economic Development – Business Incubator Grant Agreement**

Aaron Fruits was not comfortable with the Addendum stating that the building would be pro-rated if sold. Aaron said it was not a prorated scale. It was to get their money back period. He would like the term of 24 months also to be removed from the agreement. It is very vague. Kent suggested that they could send it back to the attorney to have it revised. They will get with Rod Bannon to see if it can be rewritten.

**Interagency Memorandum of Understanding – ARP Act & Local Recovery Funds**

The ARP Committee met last week. It was decided to reallocate the funds toward a new county highway garage. Kent prepared the interagency memorandum to be compliant with the US Treasury and have the funds obligated prior to December 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve the Interagency Memorandum of Understanding. Vote: 3-0

**Proposed Holiday Schedule for 2025**

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2025

New Year’s Day	Wednesday	January 1, 2025
Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 20, 2025
President’s Day	Monday	February 17, 2025
Good Friday	Friday	April 18, 2025
Memorial Day	Monday	May 26, 2025
Independence Day	Friday	July 4, 2025
Labor Day	Monday	September 1, 2025
Columbus Day	Monday	October 13, 2025
Veteran’s Day	Tuesday	November 11, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 27, 2025
	Friday	November 28, 2025
Christmas Day	Wednesday	December 24, 2025
	Thursday	December 25, 2025
	Friday	December 26, 2025
New Year’s Eve	Wednesday	December 31, 2025

A motion was made by Aaron Fruits and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the Holiday Schedule for 2025. Vote: 3-0

**TRANSFER**

From: 1000-0301-15800 Paramedic \$15,000  
To: 1000-0301-1600 Vac & Sick

From: 1000-0301-15800 Paramedic \$20,000  
To: 1000-0301-15300 EMT – B

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve the above transfer as requested. Vote: 3-0

**WABASH RIVER HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION**

Tim would like to appoint Lori Jordan from the Soil and Water office to the WRHCC. She would replace Brenda Hardy on that Board.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to

appoint Lori Jordan to the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission.

Vote: 3-0

### **County Annex – Furnaces**

BT Reynolds will be checking the furnaces at the annex. Rick Beck suggested that the water lines also be drained and winterized.

### **Fountain County Public Works Project Agreement**

The Commissioners agreed and voted on having the Cades Mill Covered Bridge painted and fire protected at their last meeting. The invoice would be paid out of the Covered Bridge Maintenance fund.

Aaron Fruits made a motion to approve the agreement for the painting and fire protection of the Cades Mill Covered Bridge. Tim Shumaker seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

Henry Schmidt gave a brief update on the bridge. The wood work & framing was completed in early November. Mr. Carrol painted and applied the fire retardant this weekend. Henry thanked the County for their support on this project.

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

#### **Ambulance – Garth Kagels**

He has not received any word on the remount. The vendor has been ill. We are still hoping for the end of November as previously reported.

#### **Health Dept – Jenny Eads**

They have received an immunization grant in the amount of \$94,000. They would like to apply \$25,000 of that grant to a part time nurse. The remaining would go toward the purchase of a generator.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to accept the grant.

Vote: 3-0

#### **Sheriff – Terry Holt**

He currently has 62 inmates at the Jail. He has 55 males and 7 females. Fourteen of the inmates are holds for the Department of Corrections and 16 from Vigo County. He is looking at taking 13 more inmates for Vigo County. He is seeing work done at the facility for the grinder/sewer project.

#### **Coroner – Joshua Whittington**

He will be working on a transfer and giving it to Colleen. He had to have recent work done on the van and will need to do a transfer to pay the invoice.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clint Kilby – He asked about when he might expect the documents/emails from his public information request. They were told they would have on or about August 6<sup>th</sup>. Also, they did a request for the invoices for Roger Azar on 4 surveys that he had done. They are not recorded in the Recorder's office. IT is searching for the emails as to the parameters that were set and Kent does not know the status of that search as this time.

Carol Owens – She asked if we have received all of the documents from Envoy. She also inquired about the BZA meeting on November 19 – it has been cancelled; and if there was an APC meeting on November 21, 2024.

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE MONDAY,  
December 2, 2024  
AT 9:00 A.M.**

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Aaron Fruits to close the meeting. Vote: 3-0

Brendan Hardy  
ant

Tim Shumaker

Colleen Chambers  
ATTEST