

**MINUTES**  
**JOINT FOUNTAIN COUNTY**  
**COMMISSIONERS & COUNCIL**  
**April 21, 2025**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**Call meeting to Order:**

Fountain County Commissioners – Aaron Fruits  
Fountain County Council – Kelly Carlson

**Department Heads**

**Judge Campbell**

**Window Genie of Lafayette -**

A quote was made by Window Genie of Lafayette for \$4,447.30 to add one way window film on 54 windows and 4 doors at the Fountain County Courthouse.

The Prosecutor has offered to pay part of the tinting. The Judge is able to pay the remainder.

The Judge would like to have Tradecraft come in and do some repairs before getting new carpet. The Council would like to see another quote besides Tradecraft. Tradecraft has done work in the Courthouse before and has done a very good job. The Clerk also would like new carpet and has a quote.

**Roemer Carpet Bid - Tabled**

A quote was made by Roemer Home Furnishings for carpet in the Circuit Court Department for \$9,500.00-\$10,500.00 (Exact price is unknown until old carpet is removed). Also, a quote for \$1,700.00 for 5 additional Cartons.

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Jim McKee to table the carpet bid until the next joint meeting on May 19, 2025.

Vote 7-0

**Highway – Jason Lewis**

Employees asking about Longevity pay. This has already been taken care of and longevity has been paid for the first quarter. They did not get the longevity the year they got the raise, but it was back in effect the next year. Also, the roads for the Community Crossings will have the white lines on the outsides.

**Henry Schmidt & Carol Freese – Celebration Ceremony**

Henry and Carol wanted to thank Jason and the highway department for their help with putting stone at the end of the bridge. They are having an appreciation ceremony on June 8, 2025 from 2-4pm. They would like all to attend. The adjoining property owner agreed to let them use their property for parking. Carol would like to have a scaled model of the bridge brought into the Courthouse to display. Tim was worried it may get knocked over. They did state it is on its own table so it should be fine. Next year is the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Fountain County. There will be a celebration May 2, 2026 at the Fairgrounds from 9:00-4:00. Carol will be asking for money closer to the celebration.

**USI presentation**

Katie and Mike from USI gave a presentation informing the Commissioners and Council the procedure for the bridge improvement and the plans to

update bridges. They did hand out several papers with charts explaining their timeline. They stated that the CCMG grant needs to be tied to economic development. They will continue to work on this plan. Kelly Carlson asked how it would be handled if two bridges were set to be repaired in one year. Katie stated they would discuss and prioritize.

**Highway- Jason Lewis**

Jason stated he is ready to move forward with the highway building. Kelly stated she has looked at a webinar from Baker Tilly. She would like to get the information so everyone can watch it. They would like Jason Semler to attend the next meeting to discuss SB 1.

**Greenway project discussion**

Julie, the grant program manager, addressed the Commissioners and Council. She would like the \$450,000 but is good with the \$225,000. Jeff Fishero wanted to make sure the lower amount would not compromise any future grants. The original amount of the proposal has now been lowered. Kelly asked how can you put a building up as collateral if you have no connection with the property. Julie stated you cannot do that.

A motion was made by Jim McKee and seconded by Denise Crowder to pay \$112,500 in 2025 out of CEDIT and put \$112,500 in the 2026 Budget.  
Vote 7-0

**Health Department Building**

The County has an opportunity to purchase the old BMV in Veedersburg. This will be purchased on contract for 10 years. They are currently working on the paperwork. This is the center of the County. This is looking at not spending any more money than they are right now as far as rent. The inspection has already been done. Any issues will be fixed before the Health Dept moves in. Tim Shumaker asked the price. Aaron Fruits stated it will cost \$350,000. There is currently a renter on half of this property. Roger asked about the environmental issues. This building has always been offices. This will connect to city utilities. HFI cannot be used for the down payment, but they do have Capital Outlay.  
Ethan will get contract together and we will have a public hearing.

**WEGA - Contract**

Kim Kalweit is the consultant for WEGA and also the town of Veedersburg. Ethan has looked over the contract and would like to make some changes to the contract. He said he is not too fond of the 6-month written notice. Jason Fruits stated they are open to working together. Kelly wanted to address an email. Kim will be transparent on any and all work she does for the County.

**Public Hearing - Additional**

**Hearing Opened at \_7:25\_p.m.**

**Public Comment**

**Hearing Closed at \_7:26\_p.m.**

**HFI – Part-Time Nurse - (within HFI fund; new line item)**

1161-10411-0000 \$10,000.00

A motion was made by Todd Hegg and seconded by Jeff Fishero to approve the additional request.  
Vote: 7-0

**Public Hearing - Rezoning**

**Hearing Opened at \_7:27\_p.m.**

**Public Comment**

KW explained that this is a rezoning of 11.7 acres that will go from agricultural to business.

Sue Anderson stated she had nothing against Mr. Clodfelter, but she does not want this property to be rezoned into agriculture. She feels like businesses on 41 will be a safety concern. She stated that she and 15 other residents feel like this should not be approved.

Rob Clodfelter stated that he has followed all the correct procedures. He said this will not cause any additional traffic. He is from rural Fountain County and understands, but there are many people driving out of county for work. He informed everyone that this property is against the Veedersburg lines. He would like to see the county grow.

Bruce Martin said he owns 64 acres on the south side of the property. He is concerned about what will happen with his property if this business is constructed. He does not want the business up against his property line. Mr. Martin is concerned about how many businesses will be built.

Ethan Myers explained what would happen if the property was rezoned. He said they want to rezone 11.7 acres and the actual business is only 3 acres. It is up to the Commissioners.

Brad Crain said he has had over 15 businesses in the County and didn't understand why you couldn't do whatever you wanted on agricultural land. Ethan informed him that laws have changed.

Dee Bentley listed this property in September. It was originally on the Veedersburg maps. She has talked with Veedersburg and they were going to approve the variance. She also stated they have tried to make sure every rule was followed.

Jeff Carver stated dealing with the state on an entrance/exit should be a priority. Mr. Clodfelter stated he is not dealing with that until the approval of the rezoning.

Ethan asked Roger Azar if there were any issues from his perspective. Roger stated there were not at this time.

**Hearing Closed at \_7:47\_p.m.**

A motion was made by KW Rice and seconded by Aaron Fruits to approve the rezoning request.

Vote: 2-1

**Transfers**

**Auditor**

From: 1000-0002-33000	Postage	\$17.15
To: 1000-0002-33900	Dues & Subscriptions	\$17.15

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Jeff Carver to approve the transfer request.

Vote: 7-0

**Attica Economic Development Member**

A motion was made by Jim McKee and seconded by Denise Crowder to appoint Kelly Carlson to the Attica Economic Development Board pending the approval by the Attica board at the next meeting.

Vote: 6-0

**BZA Budget – Jessica Anderson**

Jessica did not attend meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Brewer stated that Economic Development is vital. We are supposed to do what is right for the community. He stated that solar farms will bring in millions of dollars. He stated his property taxes have went up also.

Dave Jenkins said that the government has not done anything good for the people. He would like to know where the Solar money comes from. He said it is your land.

Dudley asked if Ethan had a chance to look at the document on the bonds. We are currently waiting on Jason Semler to look through and see what he can find. This is regarding the Special LIT.

**THE NEXT FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
MEETING WILL BE  
MAY 05, 2025  
At 9:00 A.M.**

**THE NEXT FOUNTAIN COUNTY COUNCIL  
MEETING WILL BE  
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025  
AT 9:00 A.M.**

A motion was made by KW Rice and seconded by Aaron Fruit to close the meeting for the Commissioners.

Vote: 2-0

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Denise Crowder to close the meeting for the Council.

Vote: 7-0



Kim Johnson

[Signature]  
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