

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Tim Allen, Dispatch Director; Kristine Thurston, DLZ; Chief Deputy Chad Hammel; Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director; Alex Fritz, Community Corrections; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Keith Eller, County Council; Eric Garber, HAT; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager

*The following people attended virtually through Zoom: Jennifer Woods; Jill Landrum, Auditor; Sean Spendley, Jacobs Engineering; Terry Miller, County Council; Jessica Naab; Isabella Wright*

Commissioner Rob Miller called the meeting to order at 8:48 a.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)**

**1/23/2023**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 23, 2023. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)**

**2/8/2023**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Claim docket for February 8, 2023. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)**

**1/27/2023**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Payroll docket for January 27, 2023. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Travel Authorization**

Tim Allen, Dispatch Director requested permission for himself and Tony Ehler (Assistant Director) to attend the Motorola Conference/Summit in Orlando, Florida from April 10, 2023 – April 14, 2023. The only expenses would be for meals and mileage to/from the airport. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Travel Authorization. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Huntington County Jail Expansion/Renovation**

Kristine Thurston, DLZ Construction Observation Manager, gave an update on the jail progress. She stated that they are in the pre-finals for the tower section. She presented Pay App # 33 (January 2023 billing) in the amount of \$20,645.71. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Pay App. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

Chief Deputy Chad Hammel stated that the upstairs window repair has been completed.

Commissioner Wall noted that he received a message from Mike Trevino at DLZ stating that DLZ will cover the cost of the blowers in the inmate indoor/outdoor room. The design had them blowing straight out rather than down. This issue will be resolved at no cost to the County.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Data Sharing Agreement**

Sean Spendley, Jacob's Engineering, spoke with the Commissioners regarding a Data Sharing Agreement. Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Data Sharing Agreement. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

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**IN THE MATTER OF INVOICES)**

**Cumulative Courthouse funds**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the following invoices be paid using Cumulative Courthouse funds:

- A. Hattersley & Sons, Inc. \$705.00
- A. Hattersley & Sons, Inc. \$5,231.53
- A. Hattersley & Sons, Inc. \$2,073.50
- A. Hattersley & Sons, Inc. \$4,660.00
- A. Hattersley & Sons, Inc. \$5,757.69
- Rangeline Electric \$8473.60

Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Huntington County Council on Aging**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the 2023 Agreement between the County of Huntington and the Huntington County Council on Aging, Inc. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Huntington County Humane Society**

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the 2023 Agreement between the County of Huntington and the Huntington County Humane Society. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Huntington County Youth Services Bureau**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the 2023 Agreement between the County of Huntington and the Huntington County Youth Services Bureau. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF CONTRACT)**

**Sheriff of Huntington County**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the 2023 Sheriff's Salary Contract. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Huntington County Soil & Water Conservation District**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the 2023 Agreement between the County of Huntington and the Huntington County Soil and Water Conservation District. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Pathfinder Services, Inc.**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the 2023 Agreement between the County of Huntington and Pathfinder Services, Inc. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Combined Public Communications, LLC**

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, presented Addendum A to the Combined Public Communications, LLC Agreement to add tablets for the participants in the Work Release Program. Terry Stoffel approved the addendum pending approval by Bob Garrett. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

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**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Sentinel Offender Services, LLC**

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, shared that their current home detention monitoring vendor has been bought out and they would like to switch vendors to Sentinel Offender Services, LLC. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the agreement. Tom Wall seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Tom Wall voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Cleaning products**

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, spoke with the Commissioners about cleaning products to be used at the O'Donnell Center for the Work Release Program. She proposed an agreement with a company named State for cleaning products that would be safe for participants if ingested. In discussion, the Commissioners asked Leslie to find out if EcoLab would have a similar line of products that could be used. Leslie is going to research that option.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**ATM for the Work Release Program**

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, spoke with the Commissioners about potentially installing an ATM for the participants in the Work Release Program. She provided a sample agreement (it is just for information and discussion at this point) which Bob Garrett reviewed and stated that there would need to be revisions made to it.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Work Release Program Information**

Commissioner Wall shared that they are working at the Statehouse for counties to be able to choose their mental health provider. He asked Leslie to communicate the number referrals they have had to Parkview Behavioral Health from Community Corrections.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Surge Protection for the Courthouse**

Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director, presented a quote in the amount of \$9,700.00 to provide and install a surge protection device from Rangeline Electric. The surge protection device will be installed in the courthouse. Rob Miller made a motion to proceed with the installation. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Concern over Puppy Mills**

Jessica Naab spoke with the Commissioners via Zoom regarding her concern over puppy mills. She stated that Allen County is a hotbed for puppy mills and she would like to Huntington County to adopt an Ordinance against puppy mills. Commissioner Wall shared that he is on the legislative board with the Indiana Association of County Commissioners and they are working to pass legislation to protect animals and Huntington County will not stand for animal abuse of any kind. The Commissioners stated that the downside of adopting an Ordinance is that it has the potential to be used against legitimate breeders.

Ms. Naab thanked the Commissioners for listening to her concern and was glad that they are up on the legal issues.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**Roanoke #2 American Legion Drain**

Surveyor Jerry Meehan spoke with the Commissioners about the Roanoke #2 American Legion Drain. He stated that he received quotes for de-brushing and bottom dip. The total of \$31,400 will be split 3-ways (Drainage Board, Town of Roanoke, and the Commissioners). Tom Wall made a motion to proceed and to pay the Commissioners share (\$10,466.60) from CEDIT Project 4. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea. The Commissioners requested that Jerry follow up with a landscape company to ensure that residents' property is returned to the condition it was in prior to any work being done on the drain.

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**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION**

**Highway Department Update**

Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent, gave an update on the projects they are working on:

- Bridge 23 (900 South and Belleville Rd.) has been awarded. Pre-construction meeting on February 21, 2023, then they will start construction
- Structure replacement on 1000 North – pre-con utilities just moved and construction to begin shortly
- Bridge replacement on 450 South and 300 West has been bid
- Taylor Street bridge has been bid with pre-con and will begin shortly
- Tipton Street widening is on schedule for the end of May
- Bridge rehab on 700 South and 500 West has the condemnation complete. We will be sending out bids, with construction probably in late summer early fall
- Beginning the process for a new timber bridge on 100 North - West of 975 West
- Bids for 2022 Community Crossings Matching Grant 2 on March 6 - this is for paving 100 North from Rangeline Road to State Road 105 and Rangeline Road from US Highway 24 to 500 North
- Annual bids and quotes opening on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
- Applied for \$1 million Community Crossings Matching Grant 2023-1 to pave 100 North from Rangeline Road to State Road 9 and also 300 North from Meridian Road to east county line
- Applied for \$3 million in Federal DOT bridge maintenance for 2 bridges on 300 West
- Gave presentation for the \$3.5 million on McKeever Street to INDOT

Troy also stated that he was notified that we received \$250,000 for a Road Action Safety Plan.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)**

**O'Donnell Center Update**

Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager, gave an update on the O'Donnell Center. Phil stated that the site and building improvements are finishing up and should come in under budget. Wayfinding (Directional) Signage quotes came in over budget and he is working with a local vendor to bring the project in at budget.

Phil stated that he had an examination done of the stained-glass windows in the chapel. The result was that the windows are in excellent condition and that the only thing that would be recommended is that a protective barrier be placed on the outside of the windows – the one that is there currently is too close to the stained-glass itself and does not allow for proper ventilation. He stated that the barrier is not an immediate concern, just a suggestion for the future.

Phil shared that he has been reviewing resumes for the open maintenance position at the O'Donnell Center.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)**

**4611 E. Station Road**

The Public Hearing was opened at 11:03 a.m.

The following people were present during the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller; Sarah Bruner, Land Use Division/Office Coordinator, Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Stefanie HR Director; Keith Eller, County Council; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Terry Miller, County Council; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Shane Haston; Christine Stoffel; James Curliss; Bridgett Burkhardt, Office Manager

Sarah Bruner, Land Use Division, discussed a recent "Teams Meeting" she and Kim Hostetler had with Norfolk and Southern representatives who stated they are hoping to be under contract with Greg Parker within the next two weeks for 4611 E. Station Road. Bruner stated that Greg Parker understands that once he owns the property, correcting the violations under the Notice of Enforcement become his sole responsibility. Bruner recommended an additional 90 days for either Norfolk and Southern or Greg Parker to come back to the Commissioners with a plan of repairs/demolition. Commissioner Miller asked if they would need to start over with a new Order if the property changed hands. Bob Garrett and Kim Hostetler both stated they would not be required to start over; the new owner would continue with the existing Order.

No public comment was made.

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The Public Hearing closed at 11:06 a.m.

Tom Wall made a motion to give a 90-days extension on the demolition of the structures. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING)**

**5530 N. Goshen Road**

The Public Hearing was opened at 11:15 a.m.

The following people were present during the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Commissioner Rob Miller; Sarah Bruner, Land Use Division/Office Coordinator, Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Stefanie HR Director; Keith Eller, County Council; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Terry Miller, County Council; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Shane Haston; Christine Stoffel; James Curliss; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager

Sarah Brunner, Land Use Division, stated the Department of Community Development was not able to get inside the house because the doors were boarded up. She stated they were able to look at the various out-buildings on the property. Brunner provided pictures to the Commissioners for their review. She stated the house is in pretty rough shape since sections of the first floor are falling into the crawlspace. Brunner noted the out-buildings can be repaired with new doors and being made weather-tight.

Property owner Christine Stoffel stated she can do what needs to be done to the out-buildings and would like to remodel the house. James Curliss, the contractor and family friend to Ms. Stoffel, met DCD at the inspection and stated the house can be repaired. Shane Heaston, the neighbor across the road who submitted the complaint, stated he and the other neighbors can see raccoons and other animals going in and out of the open vent. Heaston stated the neglect has been going on for 12 years and the neighbors are tired of the house being an eyesore.

Commissioner Wall stated enough time has gone by that something needs to be done. He stated he would be in favor of them coming back in two weeks with a solid plan for repairs or demolition.

Wall stated that if they did not come back in two weeks with a plan, he was in favor of moving to demolition. Stoffel asked if they could come in at 8:30 due to her work schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20 at 8:30. Commissioner Stoffel stated they just need to decide if it's worth putting the money into to fix it or if it's better to just demolish it.

The Public Hearing was closed at 11:32 a.m.

Tom Wall made a motion to have Ms. Stoffel come back on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. with a clear plan for dealing with the property issues. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)**

**Pass-through Agreement for Opioid Settlement**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve the Advised Pass-Through & Endowment Fund Agreement between Huntington County Community Foundation, Inc., the City of Huntington, and Huntington County Commissioners. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF INVOICE)**

**Early Pay Request**

Tom Wall made a motion to approve an Early Pay request for the PAL non-profit grant. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

**IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)**

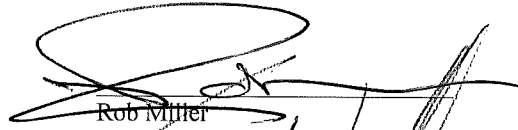
**HAT Quarter 3 Reports**

Eric Garber, Huntington Area Transportation, submitted the Operating/Administration Report for Quarter 3. The federal reimbursement is \$91,663.00. the State reimbursement is \$5,820.00 for a total of \$97,483.00. Tom Wall made a motion to

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approve the Quarter 3 report. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Tom Wall voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Rob Miller voting yea.

The Commissioners recessed at 12:19 p.m.



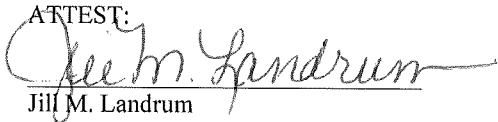
Rob Miller



Tom Wall



Terry Stoffel

ATTEST:  
  
Jill M. Landrum

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
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