
**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY MARCH 25, 2024**

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Rob Miller; Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Ilene Haluska, Herald Press; Ed Farris, Purdue Extension Office; Terry Miller, County Council; Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director; Chad Hacker, Restorative Residential Living Supervisor; Heather Malone, Chief Probation Officer; Dave Hacker, Upper Wabash River Basin Commission; Kevin Krauskopf, Communications Coordinator; Auditor Jill Landrum; Keith Eller, County Council; Mark Wickersham, HCUED; Aliza Tourkow, Grant Writer; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager

The following people attended virtually using Zoom: Terry Miller, County Council; Julia Surber, VS Engineering

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)

3/11/2024

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 11, 2024 meeting. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)

3/27/2024

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for March 27, 2024. 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 PAYROLL)

3/22/2024

Rob Miller made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for March 22, 2024. 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)

Pool Ordinance

Brian Trueblood presented a draft of the pool ordinance to the Commissioners for their review. Brian stated that this ordinance would include public and semi-public pools and the cost of this inspection would be \$50.00 per year.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE)

2024-01

Rob Miller made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01: An Ordinance regulating the inspection, care, and maintenance of public, semi-public pools and splash parks. 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)

Pool Car Usage

Discussion was had regarding a potential policy for using the county's pool cars for business travel when they are available rather than a personal vehicle.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Program Update

Commissioner Wall gave a brief update regarding Indiana's READI Program and the Stellar Communities Program. Commissioner Wall also spoke briefly about the "Make My Move Program" that would focus on attracting people to move into Huntington County.

IN THE MATTER OF LEASE)

Pitney Bowes

Ed Farris, County Extension Director, presented a lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a postage meter. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the lease – pending approval from Bob Garrett, County Attorney. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

4-H Programming

Ed Farris, County Extension Director, gave an overview of programs that are available to students through 4-H.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

IOCS Pretrial and PSC Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, presented the 2025 ICOS Grant Application (Pretrial and PSC) in the amount of \$397,261.70 for approval. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve this grant application. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

CY25 IDOC Community Corrections Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, presented the CY25 IDOC Community Corrections Grant Application in the amount of \$406,538.56 for approval. Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve this grant application. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

CY25 IDOC Residential Work Release Grant Application

Leslie Rentschler, Community Corrections Director, presented the CY25 IDOC Residential Work Release Grant Application in the amount of \$667,513.51 for approval. Rob Miller made a motion to approve this grant application. 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)

Work Release Update

Chad Hacker, Restorative Residential Living Supervisor, provided an update on the Work Release program at the O'Donnell Center at Victory Noll. The Commissioners stated that Mr. Hacker is the best person for that job and they appreciate his hard work and dedication.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Grounds maintenance at the O'Donnell Center

The Commissioners, Leslie, and Chad discussed the possibility of the work release participants helping with beautification of the grounds such as planting flower boxes, trimming bushes, mulching, etc. There have been other groups who have offered to do some of this work as well, such as maintaining the labyrinth. Commissioner Miller discussed the possibility of having some bee hives on the property so that the work release participants can learn about bee keeping. The Commissioners appreciate everyone's willingness to volunteer to help out and would like to have Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager, coordinate all of those efforts.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

CY25 IDOC Drug Court Grant Application

Heather Malone, Chief Probation Officer, presented the CY25 IDOC Drug Court Grant Application in the amount of \$164,671.00 for approval. Rob Miller made a motion to approve this grant application. 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)

Travel Authorization

Heather Malone, Chief Probation Officer provided a copy of a Travel Authorization as approved by Judge Jennifer Newton for the Huntington Superior Court/Probation employees to attend the ALL RISE National Drug Court Conference in Anaheim, California from 5/21/2024 to 5/25/2024.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Upper Wabash River Basin Commission

Dave Hacker, appointed to the UWRBC by the Commissioners, gave an update on several items. He gave an overview of the Little River between Roanoke and Huntington. There are areas of the river that are concerning due to erosion. Mr. Hacker stated that it would take multiple years and millions of dollars to remedy that.

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Also discussed was the Rangeline bridge. They have been working to get lights on the bridge and it's still a work in progress. Mr. Hacker also commented that the use of Jake brakes on the semi-trucks coming to a stop at the intersection of US 24 and SR9 can be very disturbing to visitors on the Forks of the Wabash trail. The Commissioners suggested that Mr. Hacker get in touch with Troy Hostetler to get contact information for INDOT and see if there is anything that can be done.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant update

Julia Surber, VS Engineering, gave an update on the Safe Streets for All Grant. She stated that we have received very good feedback from the two stakeholder meetings that have been held. The first meeting included public safety responders from all over the county (police, fire, EMS, and EMA). The second meeting included public officials. Several people who were unable to attend emailed their concerns about locations in their area. The final meeting will be with INDOT.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Grant update

Aliza Tourkow, Grant Writer, gave the Commissioners an update on the ARPA grant. Aliza stated that there are some major deadlines coming up in 2024. Discussion was had about obligating funds for projects that may not be completed by the end of 2024. There was also discussion about adding an additional School Resource Officer (SRO) and using ARPA funds to assist with purchasing the equipment for that position.

Aliza also spoke about the Stellar Communities grant. This grant would be a collaboration between Huntington County, Huntington City, and the smaller towns in Huntington County. The Commissioners agreed by consensus to move ahead with submitting the Letter of Intent that is due on May 1, 2024.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT)

Alcohol Beverage Board

Terry Stoffel made a motion to re-appoint Dawn Harvey to the Alcohol Beverage Board for 2024. Rob Miller seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Terry Stoffel voting yea, Rob Miller voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Weights and Measures Report

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager, presented the Weights and Measures Report for the period of January 15, 2024 to March 15, 2024 as prepared by Jim Michel.

IN THE MATTER OF REPORT)

Treasurer's Report

Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager, presented the County Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending February 29, 2024 as prepared by Brenda Hamilton, County Treasurer.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT)

Rob Miller made a motion to adjourn at 11:36 a.m. Terry Stoffel seconded and the motion passed 3-0 with Rob Miller voting yea, Terry Stoffel voting yea, and Tom Wall voting yea.

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Rob Miller

Tom Wall

ATTEST:

Jill M. Landrum, Auditor

Terry Stoffel

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA

***A signed copy of these approved minutes is available by request in the Commissioners' Office at the County Courthouse,
201 N. Jefferson St., Huntington, IN 46750.***