
**REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024**

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Auditor Jill Landrum; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Bob Jeffers, EMA Director; Thomas Fuller, Deputy EMA Director; Hank Miller; Wayne Fox; Don Freiburger; Ilene Haluska, Indiana Plain Dealer; Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent; Terry Miller, County Council; Surveyor Jerry Meehan; Mark Wickersham, HCUED; Chris Parker; Marilyn Bradford, Cynthia Wehr; Keith Eller, County Council; Joakim Abrahamsson; John P. Michaels; Kay Cron; Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director

The following people attended virtually using Zoom: Uriel; Terry Miller, County Council
Several people joined via Zoom, but were only identified by their phone number or 'Guest'

Commissioner Rob Miller was absent.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES)
10/07/2024**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Minutes from the October 7, 2024, meeting. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS)
10/23/2024**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Claim Docket for October 23, 2024. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF PAYROLL)
10/18/2024**

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Payroll Docket for October 18, 2024. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)
Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study**

Bob Jeffers, EMA Director spoke with the Commissioners regarding a grant award that they received in the amount of \$19,500.00 for a Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study for Huntington County. Director Jeffers reached out to three (3) companies for quotes and received two responses. One proposal was from Vantage Point Consulting in the amount of \$19,750. The second proposal was from SESCO Group in the amount of \$19,500. The County has previously worked with SESCO Group and been very pleased with their work. Terry Stoffel made a motion to proceed with SESCO Group. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)
Resident concern**

Wayne Fox spoke with the Commissioners and Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent about the berming that was done on his road. He stated that he was not happy with how the road was left and would like to see if it would be possible to have it chip/sealed. The Commissioners would like to see the Highway Department move forward with chip/sealing when possible.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)
Highway Department Update**

Troy Hostetler, Highway Superintendent, provided an update on replacing the fuel system at the Highway. He stated that County Council voted to move forward with the project. The Commissioners asked Troy to research if there is an extended warranty available for the equipment. Troy stated that he will follow up on that. Also discussed was the fuel user fee for 2025. There has been no definitive amount set at this time.

Troy spoke with the Commissioners about potentially helping the Highway Department employees advance their CDL from a Class B to a Class A. The Commissioners stated that they would need to review the need and cost/benefit for the County.

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Troy also discussed the need for a policy for removing deceased animals. They have received several calls to remove animals from lawns, etc. Commissioner Stoffel stated that they need to use their best judgement and common sense to evaluate on a case-by-case basis.

IN THE MATTER OF INVOICE)

Cumulative Courthouse Funds

Terry Stoffel made a motion to pay an invoice for the Huntington County Highway Department for repairing the ramp on the Warren Street side of the courthouse in the amount of \$1,359.85 from Cumulative Courthouse Funds. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Amor Excavating Invoices

Surveyor Jerry Meehan presented an invoice from Amor Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$4,593.75 for trucking material to the closed county landfill from a drainage project. Terry Stoffel made a motion to pay this invoice from the Solid Waste Disposal line item (1000-38550-00000-0068). Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

Surveyor Jerry Meehan also presented an invoice from Amor Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$2,802.30 for equipment, labor, and materials used on the Edwin Scheerer Drain. Terry Stoffel made a motion to pay this invoice from CEDIT Project 4 funds. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

City of Huntington Redevelopment Commission

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the grant agreement between Huntington County and the City of Huntington Redevelopment Commission in the amount of \$500,000.00 for an infrastructure project to provide the Town of Andrews with clean drinking water. These funds will come from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that were allocated to Huntington County. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

WRHCF Grant Principal Investigator Agreement

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the Letter of Agreement for Professional Services to be provided by DLZ as Principal Investigator for the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund (WRHCF) grant. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING

Amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)

The Public Hearing was opened at 9:30 a.m.

The following people were present for the hearing: Commissioner Terry Stoffel; Commissioner Tom Wall; Kim Hostetler, DCD Director; Bridgett Burkhart, Office Manager; Stefanie Barrioz, HR Director; Mark Wickersham, HCUED; Bob Garrett, County Attorney; Auditor Jill Landrum; Phil Hibbert, Facilities Manager; Terry Miller, County Council; Ilene Haluska, Indiana Plain Dealer; Hank Miller; Cynthia Wehr; Marilyn Bradford; Chris Parker; Don Freiburger

Kim Hostetler gave an overview of the proposed changes to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

No public comment was made.

The Public Hearing was closed at 9:40 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE)

2024-11

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-11: An Ordinance for the consideration and adoption of a text amendment of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to amend the language in the "exemption clause" definition and to delete Chapter 3, Section 3.2,D,3,a,b,f,g and h (Subdivision Control Provisions) within Huntington County, Indiana. Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

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IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

New Era Technology

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the following agreements with New Era Technology:

- Fire Alarm Inspection and Monitoring Renewal 2024 to 2027 (Courthouse)
- Fire Alarm Inspection and Monitoring Renewal 2024 to 2027 (Annex Building)
- Fire Alarm Inspection and Monitoring Renewal 2024 to 2027 (O'Donnell Center at Victory Noll)

Tom Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with a 2-0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)

LIT Grant Agreement

Terry Stoffel made a motion to approve the LIT Agreement with Clear Creek Properties for site improvements with funds allocated from Project 4.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Resident concerns

Don Freiburger spoke with the Commissioners asking for an update on the Solar Advisory Group meetings with the mediator. He asked about the Elevate Huntington initiative and if there would be reports on the progress. He also spoke about his concern with the time limit that the Plan Commission has on the public speaking at their meetings.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Solar Leases

Chris Parker spoke with the Commissioners again regarding transparency of solar leases and adding the leases as a layer to GIS.

IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION)

Issues with Audio at County Council Meetings

Hank Miller spoke with the Commissioners regarding concerns over the audio system in the GAR Room for County Council meetings. He stated that the public is unable to hear the council. Joakim Abrahamsson, IT Director stated that he was contacting a company to come in and look at potential solutions to the problem.

The Commissioners recessed at 10:27 a.m.

These Minutes were approved on Monday, November 4, 2024. A signed physical copy of this document is available by request in the Commissioners' Office located at 201 North Jefferson Street.