

MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

The Montgomery County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 8:00 am at the Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row – Room E109, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

CALL TO ORDER

On call of the roll, the members of the Board were shown to be present as follows: Board President Commissioner Dan Guard and Commissioner Jake Bohlander.

Absent: Commissioner Jim Fulwider.

Also present: County Attorney Dan Taylor; County Administrator Tom Klein; Auditor Mindy Byers; Sheriff Ryan Needham; Building Administrator Marc Bonwell; EMA Director Jessica Burget; Recorder Nancy Cox; Mapping Director Mike Davis; Central Communications Director Sherri Hill; Health Administrator Adrienne Northcutt; Assistant County Attorney Tyler Nichols and Commissioners Executive Assistant Lori Dossett.

PLEDGE & PRAYER

Commissioner Guard led the pledge of allegiance and the prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Claims: AP \$5,196,699.65

4/4 Payroll \$513,073.38

Minutes: March 24, 2025

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING: Re-Establish Cum Bridge Tax Rate for 2025

From Current Rate of \$0.055 per \$100 of assessed valuation, and the maximum property tax rate for the Fund per Indiana Code 8-16-3 is \$.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Notices of the public hearing were published on March 24, 2025 and April 2, 2025. The Commissioners have a purpose for the funds, specifically the construction, repair and maintenance and inspection of bridges, and desire to

reestablish the tax rate of the Cumulative Bridge Fund at the proposed rate of \$0.075 per \$100 assessed valuation.

BOARD PRESIDENT DAN GUARD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING @ 8:01 AM

No public comment.

BOARD PRESIDENT DAN GUARD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING @ 8:01 AM

2nd Reading Ordinance 2025-12 Re-Establishing the Cumulative Bridge Fund Rate

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve Ordinance 2025-12 Re-Establishing the Cumulative Bridge Fund Rate. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program Inspection Services Contracts: Todd Ransom & Khanrad Wilson; Radon Testing Contracts: Rick Louderback & Khanrad Wilson

Thrive West Central has received 21 applications, with the majority (77%) of applicants reporting the need for roof repair or replacement. Our focus groups include single parents, veterans, aging individuals, and persons with disabilities, with the largest group being aging residents (65%). Additionally, 14 contractors have registered to participate in the program, including eight roofing contractors. At this time, 15 applications are ready to proceed with inspections.

To move forward, we must secure and contract inspectors and radon testing services. These services are essential before we can proceed with bidding. The bid process must be completed by the end of the month. To meet publication and pre-bid meeting requirements, we can proceed with as few as two bids initially, which will allow us to complete the necessary steps without repeating them for the remaining units. *Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the contracts for radon testing with Rick Louderback and Khanrad Wilson; and inspection contracts with Todd Ransom and Khanrad Wilson. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.*

Petition for Annexation into the City of Crawfordsville - East side of the intersection SR47 South & Purple Heart Parkway

Petition is for 2.74 acres to be rezoned after annexation to B-3, Business. Land is on the east side of the intersection State Road 47 South and Purple Heart Parkway. *Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the Petition for Annexation into the City of Crawfordsville. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.*

Emergency/Transitional Housing Collaboration Project between Probation Department & Family Crisis Shelter

Probation Officer Rachael Oldham stated the Family Crisis Shelter (FCS) has presented a unique opportunity for Montgomery County Court Services (MCCS) (Pretrial, Probation, Problem Solving Courts, CTP) to collaborate on an emergency/transitional housing project. The FCS has four apartments they are proposing to allow MCCS to make referrals to. FCS is seeking a grant opportunity through the Community Foundation (to purchase appliances, rent/utilities). The Family Recovery Court program and the Drug Court programs have each agreed to provide \$5,000 support via the established Pass Through funds (*Opioid Settlement funds donated by the City to the Problem Solving Courts via the Community Foundation). The grant application and management is associated with the Family Crisis Shelter. No County funds are being requested. *Commissioner Bohlander moved to support the Emergency/Transitional Housing Collaboration Project between Probation Department and Family Crisis Shelter. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.*

Highway Department

Accept & Award CCCMG Bids - Sign Contract & Issue Notice to Proceed -

Cale Stephens – Highway Department stated after receipts of the bids the highway director and USI consultants review and recommended awarding Evergreen Roadworks, LLC the project for a total of \$1,936,604.80. The county portion to match will be \$484,151.20 and INDOT portion will be \$1,452,453.60. The CCCMG 25-1 project is a cape seal project for the following:

1. Ladoga road
2. Cassidy Road
 1. 550 N between US 231 & 275 E
 2. 275 E between 550 N & 500 N
 3. 500 N between 275 E & Darlington Town Limits
3. 650 N between Old 55 & 100 W

Commissioner Bohlander moved to accept and award the bid to Evergreen Roadworks, LLC. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

Official Detour for US41 Project - CR750W between SR47 & SR 234

The closure is estimated to be roughly 3-4 months. INDOT provided the county with some traffic data for US 41. The traffic count is roughly 1600 cars and 200 trucks per day. This road was chip sealed in 2024.

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the Official Detour for the US41 Project CR750W between SR47 & SR234. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

Vialytics Road Management System - Permission to enter into contract with Vialytics, It is a road management system that utilizes AI. Perform automatic Road Assessments and Road Control Inspections yourself via Smartphone. It does PASER rating (required every 2 years), sign inventory, locates and assigns potholes located, helps with tracking preventative maintenance processes. 3 year contract for \$32,020 per year with \$500 startup fee. The highway department trialed it this year for PASER and some sign inventory. It can be saved and integrated with the WTH THINKMAP once data is collected. *Commissioner Guard moved to approve the purchase of the Vialytics Road Management System. Seconded by Commissioner Bohlander. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.*

Facility Encroachment Agreement with CSX -

Our contractor for the Nucor water line will need to install the water line underneath facilities owned by the CSX. This agreement allows our contractor to complete the work. The insurance provisions will be provided by our contractor and the agreement will be ended after the project is completed and Indiana American Water assumes ownership of the water line. This agreement was approved by the RDC on 4-8-25 and requires Commissioners approval as well.

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the Facility Encroachment Agreement with CSX. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

Request to Provide Guidance on Loss of Earnings Calculations for Elected Officials in Hoosier Start Retirement Program -

The Commissioners approved the Hoosier Start retirement program for current elected officials that are not eligible for the State retirement system known as INPRS or PERF. The Hoosier Start program consists of two deferred compensation plans. One plan is for the County's contribution towards retirement that matches the County's annual contribution to INPRS for employees' retirement. The other plan is for the elected official's contribution towards retirement that matches the employee's annual contribution to INPRS.

The County has made payments to INPRS and Hoosier Start for the current elected officials for their past years of service as an elected official. The State is calculating a "loss of earnings" for these past years of service in which payments were not made to INPRS. The loss of earnings calculation is based on the elected officials retirement contribution of 3% of their compensation to INPRS. The County's contribution is put in to a defined benefit program where the employee does not receive a return on investment. The 3% contribution by an employee to INPRS has a return on investment. The State is using the same formula to calculate the loss of earnings for elected officials in the Hoosier Start program.

Staff is seeking guidance from the Commissioners regarding the loss of earnings calculation for the elected officials in the Hoosier Start program.

There are two options:

1. Continue with the State's loss of earnings calculation that is currently occurring. This calculation treats all elected officials as if they had participated in INPRS and would have only received a return on investment on their 3% contribution to INPRS.
2. The second option would be to ask the State to complete a new loss of earnings calculation for the elected officials in the Hoosier Start program. The new calculation would determine a loss of earnings based on the annual retirement contribution from the County and elected officials. It assumes that these elected officials would have started their participation in the Hoosier Start program on their first day as an elected official. The two deferred compensation plans in the Hoosier Start program earn a return on investment.

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve Option 2 and ask the State to complete a new loss of earnings calculations for the elected officials in the Hoosier Start program to be based on the annual retirement contribution from the County and elected officials. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

ORDINANCES

Second Reading Ordinance 2025-11 Creating the 2025 Montgomery County Health Department Tire Amnesty Grant Fund - \$10,000

The Montgomery County Health Department has received a grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for a Waste Tire Grant in the amount

of \$10,000 for one or more waste tire amnesty events to reduce the amount of waste tires in Montgomery County.

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve Ordinance 2025-11. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

RESOLUTION

Resolution 2025-11 Authorizing the City of Crawfordsville, Sunshine Vans and Program Director Belinda Young to Submit Application for INDOT Public Transportation Funding

Crawfordsville Parks Director Fawn Johnson stated the City of Crawfordsville is pursuing a grant from INDOT for public transportation. Currently, the city offers transportation for Montgomery County residents ages 60 and older and those with disabilities through the Sunshine Van program. INDOT has a grant program and funding that would allow them to expand this program and transition the current fleet of vehicles to become a public transportation provider. One of the requirements for the grant application is an resolution from the Montgomery County Commissioners authorizing the City of Crawfordsville, Sunshine Vans and specifically, program director, Belinda Young to apply for this INDOT funding.

Commissioner Guard moved to approve Resolution 2025-11. Seconded by Commissioner Bohlander. Commissioner Guard questioned if the INDOT funding ran out, who would be responsible for the transportation funding moving forward. Director Johnson stated that the grant is for 50% of the costs of the program. Currently the program is funding through billing, fares, United Way, Community Foundation and the City. It is estimated the operating costs could be \$300,000 to \$450,000. *Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.*

OTHER BUSINESS

2025 Arbor Day Proclamation – April 25, 2025

Commissioner Bohlander moved to approve the proclaiming April 25, 2025 as Arbor Day in Montgomery County. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 2-0 votes in favor.

County Administrator Tom Klein announced that April 13, 2025 through April 19, 2025 is Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Montgomery County.

Mr. Klein stated the second Reading Ordinance 2025-10 Creating the 2024-2025 Montgomery County Health Department Immunization Grant Fund was not acted upon today. The Health Department has been notified that the State pulled the funding for the grant.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, meeting adjourned @ 8:22 am.
Minutes prepared by Commissioners Executive Assistant Lori Dossett.
The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 28, 2025 @ 8:00 am @
Montgomery County Government Center-Room E-109.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:



Dan Guard, President

Attest:



Mindy Byers, Auditor

Jennifer Andel, Chief Deputy Auditor