

MEETING MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
May 13, 2025

The May 13, 2025 Montgomery County Council Meeting was held at 9:00 am at the Community Meeting Room of the Montgomery County Government Center. In attendance were Council Members Brett Cating, Joyce Grimble, David Hunt, Steve Loy, Matt Nelson and Mike Warren. Auditor Mindy Byers, County Administrator Tom Klein, and Attorney Dan Taylor were also present.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President David Hunt called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and prayer.
- II. CONSENT AGENDA: Council Member Grimble moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion carried 6-0.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.
- IV. MONEY MATTERS:

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:						
Fund	Fund Description	Dept #	Department Description	Account	Account Description	Additional Amount Requested
1148	Drug Free Montgomery County	0610	Health Department	20450	Education & Prevention	\$18,795.72
1148	Drug Free Montgomery County	0610	Health Department	30130	LCC Administrative Expenses	\$18,409.84
1148	Drug Free Montgomery County	0610	Health Department	30131	Intervention/Treatment	\$19,383.72
1148	Drug Free Montgomery County	0610	Health Department	30132	Justice Services/First Responders	\$18,409.84
1161	GPHC/Health First Indiana	0610	Health Department	30800	Printing and Advertising	\$25,000.00
9116	Waste Tire Management Grant	0610	Health Department	30050	Contractual Services	\$10,000.00
1000	County General	0068	County Commissioners	12054	Hoosier Start 401a	\$5,610.00
1000	County General	0068	County Commissioners	12095	Workers Comp Insurance	\$31,455.00
1191	Riverboat	0068	County Commissioners	12020	INPRS	\$9,006.07
1191	Riverboat	0068	County Commissioners	12054	Hoosier Start 401a	\$25,818.87
TBD	2025 READI 2.0 Grant	0068	County Commissioners	30500	Contractual Services	\$1,500,000.00
4930	Treasurer's Dog Tax	0003	County Treasurer	33500	Seminars & Training	\$100.00
1224	Reassessment	0008	Assessor	24201	Office Supplies	\$2,000.00
TOTAL:						\$1,683,989.06

- A. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Drug Free Montgomery county additional appropriation requests. The motion was seconded by Council Member Grimble and carried 6-0.
- B. Council Member Grimble moved to approve the Health Department Waste Tire additional appropriation request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Loy and carried 6-0.
- C. Council Member Loy moved to approve the Commissioners' additional appropriation requests. The motion was seconded by Council Member Warren and carried 6-0.
- D. Council Member Grimble moved to approve the READI 2.0 Grant additional appropriation request, also from the Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson and carried 6-0.
- E. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Treasurer's additional appropriation request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cating and carried 6-0.
- F. Council Member Cating moved to approve the Assessor's additional appropriation request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Warren and carried 6-0.

TRANSFER of APPROPRIATIONS:								
Fund	Fund Description	Dept #	Department	From Account	Account Description	To Account	Account Description	Transfer Amount Requested
1000	County General	0061	Council	30081	Special Appropriations	11015	Longevity	\$233,000.00
1235	PSAP LIT	0303	MCCCC	11313	Dispatcher	11045	PT Dispatcher	\$5,000.00
1235	PSAP LIT	0303	MCCCC	11313	Dispatcher	11046	PT Dispatcher	\$5,000.00
1235	PSAP LIT	0303	MCCCC	11313	Dispatcher	11047	PT Dispatcher	\$5,000.00
1235	PSAP LIT	0303	MCCCC	11313	Dispatcher	11021	OT	\$15,000.00
1235	PSAP LIT	0303	MCCCC	11313	Dispatcher	12095	Worker's Comp	\$500.00
1000	County General	0235	Probation	11273	Probation Officer	11229	Assistant Chief Probation Officer	\$6,000.00
1000	County General	0006	Surveyor	11168	Part Time Clerical	44500	Equipment	\$1,000.00
4911	PreTrial Diversion	0009	Prosecutor	44542	Special Equipment	11060	Intern	\$7,800.00
1000	County General	0271	Public Defender	11621	Deputy Public Defender	30115	Conflict/PD Contract	\$10,155.44
1000	County General	0271	Public Defender	11621	Deputy Public Defender	30065	Public Defender Contract	\$60,000.00
							TOTAL:	\$348,455.44

- A. Council Member Grimble moved to approve the Council’s transfer request for Longevity. The motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson and carried 6-0.
- B. Council Member Loy moved to approve the MCCCC’s transfer requests. The motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson and carried 6-0.
- C. Council Member Grimble moved to approve the Probation Department’s transfer request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Loy and carried 6-0.
- D. Council Member Cating moved to approve the Surveyor’s transfer request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Loy and carried 6-0.
- E. Council Member Loy moved to approve the Prosecutor’s transfer request. The motion was seconded by Council Member Warren and carried 6-0.
- F. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Public Defender’s transfer requests. The motion was seconded by Council Member Warren and carried 6-0.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Megan Noggle, the Director of the Ladoga – Clark Township Public Library had requested the re-appointment of Janet Hubble to the Board of Trustees. The appointment would be through July 16, 2028. A motion to reappoint Janet Hubble was made by Council Member Cating, and seconded by Council Member Grimble. The motion carried 6-0.
- B. The Prosecutor Intern’s compensation had been discussed at a prior meeting and the consultant had been asked to review their market analysis for the position as an “SO” job category instead of a “PAT”. Upon further review, the consultant, WIS (Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele & Associates) had recommended that the pay range be between \$23.18 - \$30.39 per hour. A motion to approve the Prosecutor’s request at \$30.39/hour was made by Council Member Grimble. The motion was seconded by Council Member Loy and passed 6-0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Mr. Ryan Keller of Thrive West Central presented an update on the development of the housing program for Montgomery County. The County has received a state grant of \$1.1 million dollars for the housing program. The grant will be utilized to pay for a certain percentage of the infrastructure for housing projects.
- B. Highway Director Jake Lough presented data regarding the revenue from the County’s Wheel Tax, and discussed potential uses for additional wheel tax revenue. He also pointed out that initially there had been legislation proposed this year that would require counties to max out wheel taxes in order to continue qualifying for the Community Crossings grants, but that language had been removed.
- C. Mr. Jeff Peters, of Peters Franklin, LLC provided an update to the County’s Fiscal plan which factored in the taxation changes that will be in effect from the latest legislation. He informed the Council Members that Montgomery County was in an enviable position, compared to other government units, overall, because of the leeway available in our local income tax options. He explained how that would gradually become the primary source of governmental funding. Mr. Peters also pointed out that other government units would need to request special LIT rates be enacted by the County Council, due to legislative changes. The County is working to obtain a

parcel-level assessment of the legislative impacts, as well.

- D. The Public Defender Intern's compensation was under the same review as the Prosecutor's. The consultant had been asked to review their market analysis for the position as an "SO" job category instead of a "PAT". The review yielded the same results as the Prosecutor's intern with a pay range of \$23.18 - \$30.39 per hour. A motion to approve the Public Defender's request to also compensate his intern at \$30.39/hour was made by Council Member Warren. The motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson and passed 6-0.
- E. At the last Council meeting, the Council passed a resolution that expressed their desire to eliminate the ERPS Committee for review of compensation requests by department heads. The compensation consultant has developed a maintenance plan that establishes a new process for reclassification of a position, adding new positions and reorganization of an office. The plan proposes to establish a new committee consisting of County Administrator Klein, three Council Members and a Commissioner that would review requests and determine if the compensation consultant should conduct a review of the request. During the discussion, County Attorney Dan Taylor said that the proposal seemed like a step backwards, and recommended that the Council consider having a smaller group, consisting of one Council Member, one Commissioner and Mr. Klein in order to have the option to discuss personnel matters privately and streamline the process. Council President Hunt suggested that the discussion be tabled until next month's meeting, and Mr. Klein said that he would work with Attorney Taylor and the WIS consultant to streamline the plan.

VII. REPORTS:

- A. Chief Probation Officer Andria Geigle asked the Council what kind of salary adjustment Departments should use in their 2026 Budget requests. Council President Hunt said to use a 3% increase for advertising purposes. He clarified that it did not mean that employees would be receiving that amount of increase, but it should work for advertising purposes.
- B. Conservation Director Leah Dick introduced herself to the Council. She also provided them with the Soil and Water Conservation District's 2024 annual report and the 2025 Q1 newsletter.
- C. Auditor Mindy Byers reported that tax collection time was now complete, and her office would be able to begin settlement in the near future. She also introduced the new Auditor's Deputy, Paula Green, who brings a large amount of experience, having formerly worked in two different County Auditor offices. Finally, Auditor Byers reported that the State Board of Accounts annual State and Federal audits would be begin shortly, and that the examiners estimated that they would be in-house for around three months.
- D. County Administrator Klein thanked the Assessor, Auditor and Treasurer's offices for all of their hard work during tax collection time. He pointed out that the Assessor's office was still pretty busy handling appeal requests up to the June 15th deadline. He also reported that the Police Memorial would be held on May 14th at 3:00 p.m. Finally, Mr. Klein reported that INDOT has said that the road work on 231 would be done by October of this year.
- E. Attorney Taylor reported that he was working to bring the Council a new legislative update.
- F. Council Member Grumble thanked Auditor Byers for sending the prior month's minutes with the agenda, and asked, since that was so helpful, if that could continue. She also reminded those present to honor the veterans who gave their all this Memorial Day.
- G. Council President Hunt reminded the Council Members of the ongoing work to get all of them set up with the tablets which would soon be used to display the resources needed for Council Meetings. If any of them require assistance with this, they need to contact Edge IT.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

- IX. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: A motion to approve the \$1,519.00 claim from Taylor, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter, and the \$4,672.00 claim from Peters Franklin, LTD was made by Council Member Nelson. The motion was seconded by Council Member Grumble and carried 6-0.
- X. NEXT MEETING: June 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Montgomery County Community Center (1580 Constitution Row, Room 109E).
- XI. ADJOURN: Council Member Hunt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion carried 6-0.

Gary Booth, Council Member

Brett Cating, Council Member

Joyce Grimble, Council Member

David Hunt, Council Member

Steve Loy, Council Member

Matt Nelson, Council Member

Mike Warren, Council Member

Attest:

Mindy Byers, Auditor

