

MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2022

The Montgomery County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 24, 2022 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: President, John E. Frey; Vice President James D. Fulwider; and Commissioner Dan Guard.

Also present: County Attorney Dan Taylor; County Administrator Tom Klein; Auditor Jennifer Andel; Building Administrator Marc Bonwell; Sheriff Ryan Needham; Highway Director Jake Lough; Assessor Sherri Bentley; Health Administrator Adrienne Northcutt; EMA Director Shari Harrington; and 911 Director Sherri Henry.

PLEDGE & PRAYER

Board President Commissioner John Frey led the pledge of allegiance and Jim Fulwider led the prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Claims: October 11, 2022 to October 24, 2022

Accounts Payable: \$633,044.19

Approve Minutes: October 11, 2022

VAF Copier Lease: Commissioners Office -

Ricoh IM C2500 Multifunction Copier for use in the Commissioner's Office. Lease & maintenance will be paid on an ANNUAL basis \$1,440.96.

Approve Carpet Quotes: Probation Department

Received two quotes: Town & Country - \$4,885.45; Zahn's Floor Covering - \$6,393.50. Recommended approving the lowest quote submitted by Town & Country. CCD funds will be used.

Commissioner Guard moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Fulwider.

Motion carried 3-0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by MCCF Kelly Taylor: High-Quality Early Learning in Montgomery County -

A recent study has shown the cost of inadequate child care in Montgomery County due to absences in the workplace results in a loss to businesses of \$7.9 million annually due to absences and turnover. Ms. Taylor stated *"as a matching gift challenge from an anonymous donor, effective September 7, for every \$1 cash gift received by MCCF, the donor will match with \$1. This creates the perfect opportunity for our community to come together and meet this challenge."* November 10th is the kickoff for the project which Ms. Taylor referred to as a "partnership" consisting of the City, Tempur Sealy, MCCF Board of Directors which is now their top priority. MCCF is requesting that the County donate the former County building located at 110 West South Boulevard. Commissioner Frey commented that this proposal is an investment in our community. *Commissioner Frey moved to donate the former South Boulevard County Building to the MCCF. Seconded by Commissioner Guard.* Commissioner Guard stated that the amount of return will be phenomenal for a \$4 million dollar investment in kids. Commissioner Fulwider thanked the Mayor and the Board members, *"it is our future."* *Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.* {See Attached PowerPoint Presentation}

County Employee Health Insurance 2023 Renewal –

APEX Rep Bill Sylvester – Stated he has met with staffur Health Insurance Agency, to review the proposed renewal for health insurance benefits. Upon review of the proposed renewal, we believe that we can maintain the current medical premium rate structure for the employees of Montgomery County. This would mean that the rates will have remained the same for three years for our employees. We also believe that we can offer a premium holiday in November and December of this year. Finally, we are recommending that we increase the County's contribution to each plan participant's H.S.A. by \$250. Maintaining the current medical premium rates, offering premium holidays and increasing the contribution to H.S.A. accounts will help us remain competitive in providing benefits to our employees. Also, APEX obtained quotes for a traditional health insurance plan. The quote is 24% greater than the quote for our existing plan. The increase in contribution to the H.S.A. accounts will be paid from the General Fund. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to accept the recommendation and approve the 2023 County Health Insurance Renewal with APEX increasing life insurance to \$25,000; add additional \$250 to HSA providing employees agree to an annual wellness screening and a premium holiday for November and December. Seconded by Commissioner Guard.* Commissioner Guard stated that the plan can be difficult to navigate, but the employees have to be involved in the process. Sheriff Needham commented that the Commissioners just approved to invest in youth, so now he believes they should invest in the employees. Navigating the system is a tremendous headache for employees and some employees are choosing not to use the insurance for that reason. Some employees have reported being turned into collections. Sheriff Needham requested that the Commissioners consider either hiring an HR person or assigning an employee to be the point person and work as the insurance specialist so that the employees do not have to deal with the headaches. Commissioner Fulwider stated that insurance is complex and the current County employee's insurance is even more complex. *Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Open Bids: Constitution Row Project

Attorney Dan Taylor opened one bid received from Milestone for the pavement improvement project on Constitution Row in the amount of \$131,000. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to take the Milestone bid under advisement for review by USI. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

DES Work Order: Additional Work for Purchase and Over-seeding the Landfill - \$8,000 -

This is an additional Work Order for the purchase and overseeding the landfill with wild flower seeds to reduce need for ongoing mowing activities. Wildflowers are mowed once annually. *Commissioner Guard moved to approve the DES Work Order for the landfill project. Seconded by Commissioner Fulwider. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

DES Work Order: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment @ 110 W South Boulevard - \$2,915.23

DES Engineering will perform a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) E 1527-13. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to approve the DES Work Order for the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment of the south Boulevard Building. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

LPA Consulting Contract - United - Bridge 63 on CR625E north of State Road 32

Rehab (Federal Aid) - \$183,600; LPA Consulting Contract - United - Bridge 66 on CR300S east of US136 Rehab (Federal Aid) - \$187,675; LPA Consulting Contract - United - Bridge 175 on CR550E south of Ladoga Rehab (Federal Aid) - \$206,600 -

Highway Director Jake Lough stated that the County applied for and received funding for the rehab of Bridges 63, 66 & 175. The total cost estimate for all three bridges is \$3,674,000 and is an 80/20 project.

The County's portion is \$577,875. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to approve the three LPA Contracts. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Vault 44.01 Ltd. -

Preston Evans, Vault 44.01 Ltd representative explained to the Commissioners that this is actually a research project to do seismic testing planned around Linden for the Ethanol Plant. The initial testing will be done in the County's right-of-way. Vault is continuing to work with landowners to come to an agreement to use their land, those negotiations are not quite there yet.

Commissioner Guard moved to approve a Proclamation supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans. Seconded by Commissioner Fulwider. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.

PROCLAMATION OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS

WHEREAS, the residents of Montgomery County, Indiana have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veteran Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, the Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County hereby declares from November 7 through Veterans Day, November 11th 2022 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, the Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence.

Proclaimed this 24^h day of October in the year 2022.

ORDINANCES

Final Reading: Ordinance 2022-29 - Creating the 2023 Family Recovery Court Grant Fund – \$100,637 grant award –

Grant will provide funding for a PCS Coordinator salary & benefits, Program supplies, participant incentives, drug testing supplies, participant services (Barrier Buster & Emergency Needs), cell phone, travel/training. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to approve Ordinance 2022-29. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Final Reading: Ordinance 2022-30 - Creating the 2023 Montgomery County Drug Court Program Grant Fund - \$80,442 grant award –

Grant will provide funding for Drug Court Case Manager/Probation Officer Salary, benefits, office supplies, cell phone and travel/training. *Commissioner Guard moved to approve Ordinance 2022-30. Seconded by Commissioner Fulwider. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Final Reading: Ordinance 2022-31 - Creating the Montgomery County Probation CY2023 Community Corrections & Justice Reinvest Grant Fund - \$164,890 grant award –

Grant will provide funding for the ongoing support of two probation officers salaries & benefits, gas/fuel incentives (Probationer & Staff), Program Manuals, dues, cell phone, vehicle insurance, conferences (travel/training, lodging and travel/mileage). *Commissioner Fulwider moved to approve Ordinance 2022-31. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Final Reading: Ordinance 2022-32 - Creating the 2023 Veterans Treatment Court Grant Fund -

\$103,708 grant award - grant will provide funding for PSC Coordinator Salary & benefits, Mentor Coordinator and Mentor Education/Supplies. *Commissioner Fulwider moved to approve Ordinance 2022-32. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 3-0 votes in favor.*

Introduction: Ordinance 2022-33 - Creating the 2023 HMEP Training Grant - \$16,000 -

Project Title: PHMEP-2023-2023 HMEP Confined Space Training.

Introduction: Ordinance 2022-34 - 2022 EM-HS/CERT Training Room Grant - \$92,504.43 -

Project Title: Priority 2022 CERT Program Training Room and Mass Notification System Grant.

Introduction: Ordinance 2022-35 - 2022 Cybersecurity Grant MSCO - \$145,991.28 -
Project Title: Priority Montgomery County 2022 Law Enforcement Cybersecurity Terrorism.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners presented the “Award for Exceptional Service” to outgoing EMA Director Shari Harrington. Commissioners thanked Harrington for all of her dedication to the County through her work as the County EMA Director. Commissioner Fulwider added that Harrington first worked at the Health Department and then moved up to Health Administrator before she moved on to her current position as EMA Director.

Open Annual Highway Department Bids –

Attorney Taylor opened the following bids:

- 1) Martin-Marietta
- 2) Pro Ag Inc.
- 3) Stello Signs
- 4) Ceres Solutions
- 5) Mike Green, Inc.
- 6) Newton Oil
- 7) Cargil
- 8) Asphalt Materials
- 9) E-3 Bridge
- 10) Morton Salt
- 11) Pomp’s Tires & Disposal
- 12) Putnam County Aggregates
- 13) Engineering Aggregates
- 14) US Aggregates
- 15) Great Lakes Chloride
- 16) Rejuv Tech
- 17) Korks Dust Control
- 18) Co-Alliance
- 19) Lincoln Park Stone
- 20) CivilCon

Commissioner Fulwider moved to take the Annual High Bids under advisement. Seconded by Commissioner Guard. Motion carried 5-0 votes in favor.

Commissioner Frey stated that the Commissioners have heard from folks on commercial solar. The Plan Commission are currently looking text amendments. The Commissioners have posted a Q&A in both area newspapers on the subject.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, *Commissioner Fulwider moved to adjourn. Motion passed 3-0 votes in favor.* Meeting adjourned @ 9:33 am.

Minutes prepared by Commissioners Executive Assistant Lori Dossett.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 @ 8:00 am @ Montgomery County Government Center-Room E-109.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

John E. Frey, Board President

Attest:

Jennifer Andel, Auditor

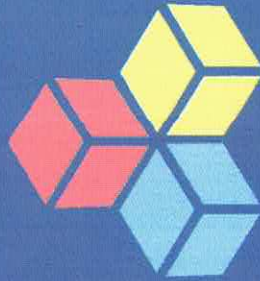
High-Quality Early Learning in Montgomery County

KELLY TAYLOR

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Economic Impact of Lack of Access to Child Care



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LACK OF ACCESS TO CHILD CARE TO RURAL AND URBAN INDIANA COUNTIES

| | Impact on Indiana Businesses | Impact on the Economy | Impact on Tax Revenue |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Montgomery | -\$7.9 million | \$4.9 million | -\$808,000 |
| Indiana | -\$1.8 billion | -\$1.1 billion | -\$118.8 million |

- Lack of access to child care in Montgomery County costs businesses **\$7.9 million** annually due to absences and turnover.
- Costs the economy **\$4.9 million** loss of worker earnings cuts into spending.
- Costs local government **\$808,000** annually due to a decline in earnings affecting tax contributions.
- A study conducted by the IU Public Policy Institute and Early Learning Indiana calculated the effects of inadequate child care options resulting in work disruptions such as employee absences and turnover.

Why Child Care?

Child care is an economic development issue that is impacting our community now with a two generational impact.

REAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

It is estimated that Indiana will lose between \$5.7B and \$8.6B over the next 10 years due to a lack of early care and education.

WORKFORCE

We need everyone working. Unemployment rates are at record lows. Child care is an essential infrastructure.

A recent US Chamber of Commerce Foundation Study found that 58% of working parents reported leaving work because they were unable to find child care solutions that met their needs.

TALENT ATTRACTION

What young family will move to a community without first securing child care?



Why Child Care?

- Ages 0-5 most critical years of brain development
 - **85%** of a child's capacity to learn is developed by age 5
- Access to quality child care can **increase school success** and **reduce the likelihood of crime**
- Child care is key to a **robust economy** and **successful businesses**
- Studies indicate a return on investment of **up to \$7 for every \$1**
- Investment in your **current and future workforce** by offering high-quality care



**High-quality child care is
economic development and a
quality of life factor for
communities.**



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TALENT ATTRACTION

What young family will move to a community without first securing child care?



55 percent of Hoosiers live in a child care desert

Montgomery County is a child care desert.

Children under 6 in need of care \approx 2,000

Seats available \approx 750 (38%)

High-quality licensed seats \approx 223 (11.1%)

Source: Bipartisan Policy Center, Early Learning Advisory Council



Why Child Care?

Now is the time to build a child care system that works

- Partnerships must be established to create a long-term, sustainable solution for our community
- Partnerships must include government, business and nonprofits
- If we don't have safe, high-quality child care, how will we attract families to our community?



Our Plan:

A new, high-quality child care facility in Montgomery County

Location: South Boulevard

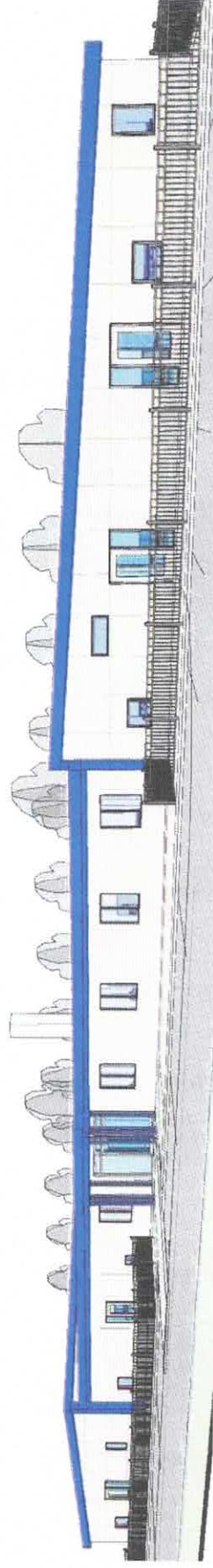
Number of children: 124-134 seats for infant through age 5

- Renovate and add to the facility to create a 14,000 square foot facility
- Partner with a high-quality provider to operate the facility
- Create a workforce pipeline with the local High Schools

Funding partnerships: Local government, MCCF, businesses



South Boulevard Building

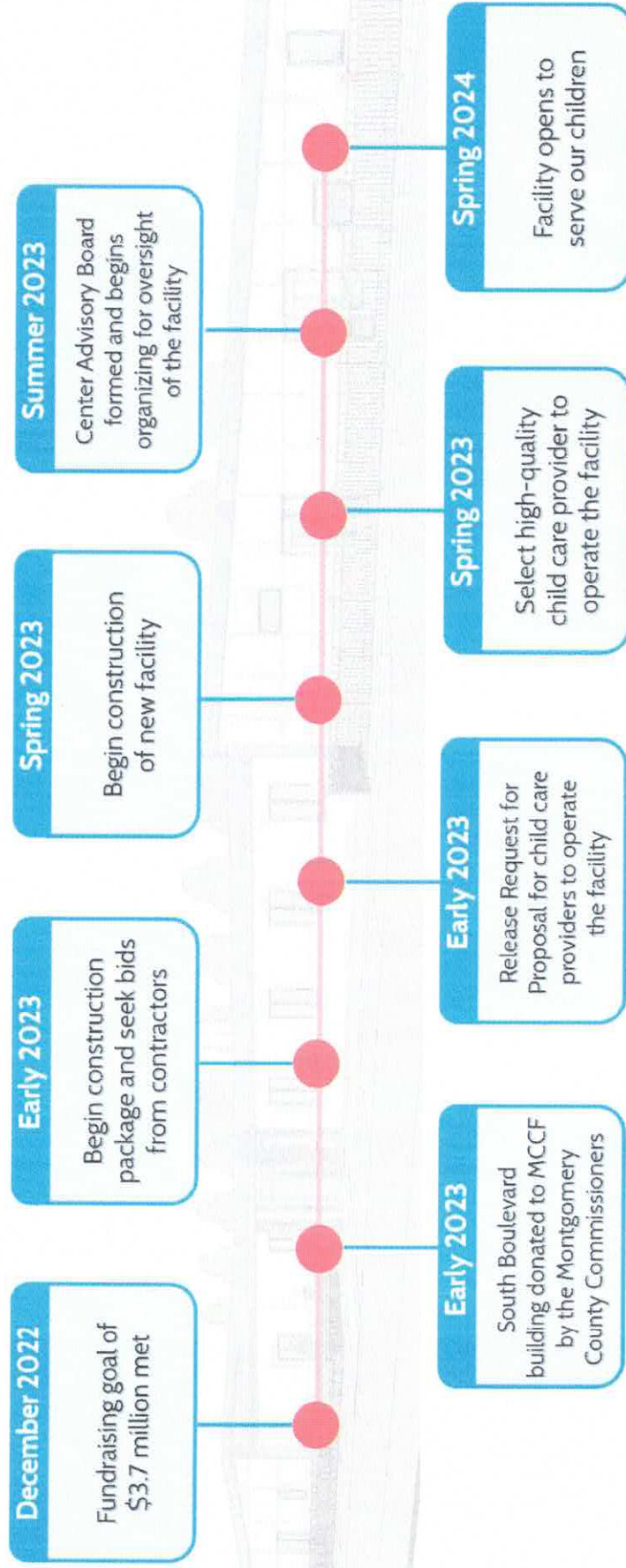


Montgomery County Early Learning Center

Projected Timeline



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Early Childhood
Coalition



* Timeline is an estimate and subject to many variables

How you can support Montgomery County's greatest asset: Our Children.

Super Hero

\$500,000 or more

Named Spaces: Special recognition in entry and reception areas, plus one classroom.

Other Benefits:

- Seat on the Center Advisory Board
- Priority seating for your employees
- Opportunity to purchase and hold seats

5 opportunities available

Most Valuable Playmaker

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Named Space: One of the six high-quality playgrounds that give children a fun place to be active, social, and play.

6 opportunities available

Champion

\$250,000 - \$499,999

Named Space: Gross motor skill/playroom or school-age multi-purpose room.

Other Benefits:

- Seat on the Center Advisory Board
- Priority seating for your employees

4 opportunities available

All Star

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Named Space: Choice of teacher planning workspace, buggy storage area, kitchen, family conference area, or mother's nursing room.

5 opportunities available

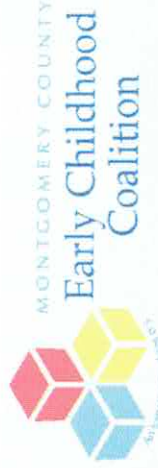
Project Goal: \$3.7 Million

Payments will be collected by MCCF, a 501(C)3 Nonprofit Organization

Gifts to Fund the Child Care Center

Matching Gift Opportunity:

\$1:\$1 *up to* \$500,000



The Results

- An engaged, productive workforce with access to high-quality child care.
- A model for other rural communities.
- A transformational project for our community, children and businesses!

