

Commissioners Meeting
June 2, 2025

Date & Time: 2025-06-02 6:00 P.M.

Location: Room 106

Attendees: Jeremy Pasel and Brian Wenning

- **Opening**
- **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
 - The meeting commenced at 8 o'clock with a welcome to attendees.
 - Title VI forms are available for attendees to fill out and submit to the auditor's office.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**
 - The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeremy Pasel followed by prayer from Brian Wenning.
 - Gabe Nobbe was noted as absent due to attending a work conference.
- **May 19th Commissioner Meeting Minutes**
 - No questions were raised regarding the May 19th meeting minutes.
 - A motion was made by Jeremy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Claims Review**
 - No questions were raised regarding claims.
 - A motion was made by Brian Wenning and seconded by Jeremy Pasel to approve claims. Claims were approved unanimously.
- **Payroll Approval**
 - Payroll for May 23, 2025, was discussed.
 - Motion to approve payroll was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Jeremy Pasel, and carried unanimously.
 - Payroll total: \$406,207.92.
- **Highway Department Updates**
- **Routine Maintenance and Operations**
 - Todd Houk reported ongoing regular maintenance activities:
 - Tree trimming, spreading stone, grading roads, sign maintenance, and patching are being performed as part of weekly and daily duties.
- **Grant Closeouts**
 - 2024-2 Grant Closeout:
 - The closeout letter is prepared and will be presented at the next commissioners' meeting for payment approval.
 - Proof of closeout is required for finalization.
- 2025 Contractor Award and Funding Requests
 - Work on the 2025 contractor award document is nearly complete.
 - After bid acceptance, all roads and bids must be listed and submitted to INDOT for funding.
- Town of Millhousen CCMG Grant
 - The CCMG grant process for Millhousen is underway.
 - All forms are filled out and ready for submission to INDOT, pending the town clerk's signature.
- 2024 Annual Report Submission
 - The annual report was submitted to LTAP and approved/certified.
 - Auditor Christy Smiley was thanked for her assistance in compiling the report, which includes all expenditures and receipts.
- **Road Work and Scheduling**
 - Wedge and Overlay, Skip Patching, and Chip & Seal
 - Initial work on wedge and overlay and skip patching has started but was paused due to a contractor's commitment in Rushville; work will resume Thursday.
 - Target start date for chip and seal: June 9.
 - Signs will be posted on affected roads a couple of weeks in advance.

- Rain may delay both chip and seal and wedge/overlay operations.
 - Coordination with SC Construction is ongoing to review routing and scheduling, with Tim Ortman meeting SC Construction to discuss selected routes and possible acceleration of work.
 - The chip and seal, wedge and overlay, and skip patching projects are expected to continue for the next four to five weeks, depending on weather.
- **Public Communication and Coordination**
 - Discussion on improving communication with dispatch and the public:
 - Maps and schedules should be shared with Dave Henderson (IT, manages county Facebook) for public updates.
 - Updates on road closures and maintenance should be provided to both dispatch and the public to avoid issues for emergency services.
 - Emphasis on proactive communication to keep residents informed and avoid confusion.
- **Quality Concerns and Community Feedback**
 - Concerns were raised about last year's chip and seal work:
 - Complaints included gravel in yards and inadequate cleanup.
 - Insurance claims for property damage from loose stone were submitted and paid.
 - The importance of addressing issues proactively rather than reactively was stressed.
 - Tim Ortman is the liaison for quality control with contractors; early meetings with SE Construction addressed these concerns.
 - The need for ongoing oversight and immediate feedback to contractors was emphasized to prevent repeat issues.
 - All reported issues were addressed, and insurance claims for rock chips were paid by the contractor.
- **Contractor Mobilization Fees**
 - Discussion on contractor mobilization:
 - Concern was expressed about being charged remobilization fees when contractors voluntarily leave for other jobs.
 - It was confirmed that this issue was addressed and resolved in the current contracts to avoid unnecessary fees.
- **Enterprise Fleet Contract and Vehicle Replacement**
- **Current Status and Perspectives**
 - Concerns were raised about the necessity of consistently acquiring new vehicles for the Highway Department, especially if current vehicles are paid off and not experiencing mechanical issues.
 - Budget constraints were highlighted, with a preference to avoid ongoing vehicle payments when funds are needed for higher-cost items like dump trucks.
 - There was consensus that emergency vehicles (e.g., those running single-ten) are a higher priority for replacement due to their critical use and mileage.
 - Commissioners agreed to further review the numbers and revisit the topic after more information is available.
- **Pool Ordinance Update and Approval**
- **2nd Reading**
 - The first reading of the pool ordinance occurred two meetings ago; the current review focused on the substance of the enforcing ordinance.
 - No changes were made to the fine schedules; additions were made to the definition section to clarify scope and intent.
 - Definitions Provided:
 - Public Pool: Any pool of not less than 1,000 gallons, open to the community, intended for swimming or bathing, operated by various entities regardless of fee.
 - Semi-Public Pool: Any pool of not less than 1,000 gallons, restricted to residents, members, or guests, operated in conjunction with institutions like schools, hotels, apartments, clubs, etc.
 - Exclusion: Private and residential pools are explicitly excluded from the ordinance.

- The updated definitions were identified as the most significant change, ensuring clarity and proper limitation of the ordinance's scope.
- A Motion was made by Jeremy Pasel and seconded by Brian Wenning to approve the ordinance.
- The motion carried unanimously.
- **Roofing Project Completion and Approval**
- Double E Roofing submitted a bid to complete the last section of the roof for \$5,927.58
- The total cost for the roofing project was confirmed as \$29,927, with documentation provided in two separate documents.
- The project has been completed in increments.
- Motion to approve the payment was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Jeremy Pasel, and carried unanimously.
- **Appointment of Interim EMA Director**
- Following the resignation of Brad Speer, the commissioners needed to appoint an interim EMA director.
- Motion was made by Jeremy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning to appoint Gary Hash as the new interim EMA director as of June 2, 2025.
- **Courthouse HVAC System Maintenance and Bids**
- **System Status and Issues**
 - Ongoing discussions about maintaining the courthouse HVAC system.
 - Peine previously provided a bid and performed some repairs, discovering an additional valve issue requiring system drainage and new valve installation.
 - The system is currently functional in most areas, but some rooms are still not fully cooled.
- **Bids and Financials**
 - Peine's Bid: \$18,450
 - Turnkey's Bid: \$10,779.
 - Additional bids for related work:
 - Turnkey: Shut-off valves on the chilled system for \$6,785; controls and strainers for \$10,779.
 - Peine: Expansion on the heating tank for \$7,840; controls and strainers for \$11,730.
 - There is confusion regarding what portion of Peine's \$11,000 bid has already been completed.
- **Next Steps and Concerns**
 - The necessity of immediate further upgrades was questioned, as the system is currently functional in most areas.
 - It was agreed to have County maintenance employee Charlie Davis review the billing and work completed to date before proceeding.
 - The need for ongoing maintenance was acknowledged, but caution was advised against excessive spending or unnecessary system replacement.
 - The topic will be revisited at the next meeting on June 16, 2025.
- **2025 County Fair Planning and Updates**
- **Bid Process for Port-a-Lets**
 - Bids for port-a-lets at the fair were published last week.
 - Bid Requirements:
 - Company name and contact information.
 - 20 units to be placed as determined by the fair committee.
 - Units must be on-site by July 5, 2025, and remain until July 19, 2025.
 - Daily cleaning required.
 - Certificate of insurance and Indiana Board of Health certificate needed.
 - Bids due by noon, Friday, June 13, 2025, at the auditor's office.
 - Commissioners will decide on the bid at the June 16, 2025, meeting.
- **Fair Event Schedule**
 - July 10: Opening night with ATV drags (by Wolf).

- July 11: TQ midjets.
- July 12 (Friday): Demo derby.
- July 13 (Saturday): Truck drags.
- July 14 (Monday): Tractor pull.
- July 15 (Tuesday): Rodeo with bulls and barrel racing.
- **Facility Improvements**
 - Farm and home bathrooms are being remodeled as part of the Ready 2.0 project.
 - Track tiling repairs have been completed, addressing multiple 10-20 foot sections blocked by tree roots.
 - Horse arena and its sides have also been tiled to alleviate water issues.
- **Fair Parade**
 - Parade scheduled for July 13, 2025.
 - Line-up at 2 p.m.; parade starts at 4 p.m.
 - Route will avoid the horse arena to prevent disturbances; semis will take an alternate route.
 - Chris Ramey recognized for his effective management of the fair.
- **Facility Use Request**
 - Request from YMCA Rolling Bike Tour for a non-competitive bicycle ride at the northeast corner by Washington, Franklin.
 - Event includes lunch and live music from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on June 28, 2025.
 - Electricity is required; certificate of insurance provided.
 - Motion to approve use of facilities was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Jeremy Pasel, and carried unanimously.
- **Introduction of New Veteran Affairs Officer**
 - Ken Mobley introduced as the new Veteran Affairs Officer, replacing Mike Baumgartner.
 - Ken is acclimating to the role, reviewing budgets, and identifying organizational needs.
 - IT needs (computer and docking station) are being addressed within the current budget, with guidance on procurement and documentation provided.
- **Multi-Hazardous Mitigation Plan Grant and Team Meeting**
- **Grant Status and Requirements**
 - The grant was paused on April 7, 2025, and restarted two weeks prior to June 2, 2025.
 - A mitigation plan team meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2025, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., in the training room.
 - The meeting will cover natural hazards: flash floods, storms, tornadoes, earthquakes, extreme temperatures.
 - Nearly 100 people are invited; a 25% attendance rate is considered excellent.
 - Representatives from Greensburg, at least one commissioner, and all incorporated towns are required to attend, with invitations extended to town boards and volunteer fire departments.
- **Grant Financials**
 - The county's portion of the grant is about \$7,000.
 - Time spent by staff on the project can be charged back against the grant.
 - Assistance from the technology group and dispatch was acknowledged for compiling five years of fire department run data.
 - The consultant is assisting with tracking and reporting staff hours for grant reimbursement.
 - The grant was renewed after a temporary pause, and the team is working to ensure compliance and timely progress.
- **9-1-1 Interlocal Agreement and Equipment Update**
 - The interlocal agreement between city and county for 9-1-1 was finalized and distributed for review.
 - The agreement is pending review by commissioners and attorneys; it may not be ready for the upcoming Wednesday meeting.
 - New equipment for 9-1-1 has been ordered, including a tower, expected to arrive in the coming weeks.

- A special meeting with the council is scheduled for final approval.
- **Fairgrounds Ready 2.0 Project and Financial Documentation**
 - Documentation for work completed at the fairgrounds is being compiled for inclusion in the Ready 2.0 packet.
 - The original \$1.2 million county commitment will be documented as part of the county’s contribution.
 - Excess tile from the project will be returned for reimbursement; bills and credits are being totaled for reporting.
 - Additional updates on highway department activities and fairgrounds improvements will be provided as documentation is finalized.
- **Comprehensive Plan and Community Survey Update**
 - Next Wednesday, APC, BZA, Doug Westerfeld, and others will meet to select the entity to write the comprehensive plan.
 - Focus groups have not yet been formed.
 - As of May 19, 2025, 138 survey responses had been received; the previous survey had 204 responses.
 - Efforts to increase participation include a booth at the fair (SIRPC), QR codes, and online links.
 - The survey link is available online and through county Facebook pages, and additional outreach is planned to increase response rates.
- **County Policy Changes**
 - SOPs are being updated to reflect county policy changes regarding payroll and holidays.
 - Ritter has requested updates to two SOPs to align with county policy.
 - Formal adoption of changes is pending and will be added to the next commissioners’ meeting agenda.
 - The overtime policy was recently received and will be reviewed for formal adoption.
- **Additional Updates and Announcements**
 - The BZA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday night, June 4, at Greensburg High School auditorium, with the APC meeting at 6:30 p.m. and BZA at 7:00 p.m.; five petitions are on the agenda.
 - The next commissioner's meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2025, with courthouse HVAC maintenance and port-a-let bid decisions on the agenda.
 - The county is monitoring participation in the comprehensive plan survey and will continue outreach efforts at the fair and through online channels.
 - The commissioners acknowledged the contributions of the fair committee and highway department for recent improvements and preparations.

Meeting Adjournment

- Motion to recess was made by Jeremy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning. Motion passed. Meeting recessed.

The Next Commissioner meeting will be held on June 16th, beginning at 8:00 A.M. in room 106.
