

Commissioners Meeting

March 17, 2025

Date & Time: 2025-03-17 08:00

Location: Room 106

Attendees: Jeremy Pasel, Gabriel Nobbe, Brian Wenning

Opening

- **Welcome and Introduction**
 - The meeting was called to order, and attendees were welcomed.
 - Title VI forms were made available for attendees to fill out and submit to the auditor's office.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**
 - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rob Goodfellow, followed by a prayer from Jerran Jackson

Approval of Minutes

- **March 3rd Minutes**
 - The minutes from March 3rd were reviewed with no additions or corrections.
 - A motion to approve the minutes was made by Gabe Nobbe, seconded by Brian Wenning, and passed unanimously.
- **March 7th Executive Session Minutes**
 - The minutes from the March 7th executive session were also reviewed.
 - A motion to approve these minutes was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe, and passed unanimously.

Financial Approvals

- **Claims**
 - A motion to approve claims was made by Gabe Nobbe, seconded by Brian Wenning, and passed unanimously.
- **Payroll**
 - Payroll for March 14, 2025, amounted to \$398,761.14.
 - No questions were raised, and a motion to approve payroll was made by Gabe Nobbe, seconded by Brian Wenning, and passed unanimously.

Sheriff Bill Meyerrose Report

- **Road Closure Request**
 - Request for annual road closure on County Road 250 West between West Base Road and Vandalia Road for emergency vehicle operations training.
 - Explanation: Training is mandatory by Indiana law, requiring eight hours minimum annually.
 - Reason for Location: The road is minimally used, making it ideal for training.
 - Cost Efficiency: Conducting training locally saves on overtime costs compared to using the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.
 - The closure is scheduled from May 29th to June 9th.
 - A motion to approve the road closure was made by Jeremy Pasel, seconded by Brian Wenning, and passed unanimously.
- **Grant Proposal**

- Proposal for a \$56,000 grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute for the highway injury reduction program.
 - Details: The grant covers overtime for officers involved in initiatives like "Click It or Ticket."
 - Financials: No direct cost to the county, with a \$14,000 in-kind match included.
- A motion to approve the grant proposal was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe, and passed unanimously.
- Fuel Card Update
 - Update on the transition to new gas cards, the Sheriff's department will continue with current use of Wex accounts for tracking mileage and cost savings with Enterprise.
 - The new cards are available as a backup, with potential savings from using the county highway department's fuel.

Doug Westerfeld, Area Plan

- Blight Project Update
 - Decatur County Revitalization Project is ongoing, with meetings every two weeks.
 - Ordinances: Drafting of fines and fees ordinance and unsafe building ordinance is in progress.
 - Current Actions: Letters sent to property owners under existing ordinances; new ordinances will empower the Area Planning Commission.
 - Discussion on legal responsibilities for prosecuting civil cases once ordinances are in place.
- Comprehensive Plan
 - Update on the comprehensive plan and scoring committee's progress.
 - Grant Opportunity: A \$60,000 grant from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs is available, with a 10% match required.
 - Timeline: Quarter three is targeted for grant application, allowing time for public engagement and feedback.
 - Confirmation of eligibility for the grant due to a previously completed income survey.

Income Survey and YMCA Process

- Income Survey Validity: Income surveys are valid for five years from the date of the first mailing. The current survey is only a couple of years old, ensuring its continued relevance.
- YMCA Process Benefit: The income survey is beneficial for the YMCA process, requiring 51% or more low to moderate income. This process alleviates workload from Doug and the committees, facilitating the acquisition of the OCRA grant.
- Approval of Comprehensive Plan: A motion was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe and approved to proceed with the comprehensive plan timeline and process.
 - Timeline: Initial publication for engineering procurement is estimated for May 6, 2025, with the comprehensive plan targeted for completion by November 2026.
 - Public Engagement: Additional committees will be formed for public engagement once the engineering firm is secured.

Lawn Care Bids

- Bid Details:

- Tommy's Lawn Care (Osgood, Indiana):
 - Mowing: \$130 per mow
 - Spring Fertilizer: \$253.64
 - Spring Weed Program: \$227.34
 - Crabgrass Control: \$232.21
 - Fall Fertilizer Weed Program: \$244.42
 - Landscape Flowerbed Grass Removal: \$357
 - Total: \$2,185.39
- Double D Lawn Service (Westport):
 - Mowing: \$140 per mow
 - Spring Fertilizer: \$235
 - Spring Weed Program: \$240
 - Crabgrass Control: \$250
 - Fall Fertilizer and Weed: \$250
 - Spring and Fall Flower Bed Maintenance: \$425
 - Total: \$2,400
- Decision: Tommy's Lawn Care was selected due to lower costs. A motion was made by Gabe Nobbe, seconded by Brian Wenning and approved to proceed with Tommy's Lawn Care.

Maintenance Position

- Interview Summary: Interviews were conducted in the absence of one member due to illness. Applicant number two was favored based on qualities and fit for the job.
- Salary Concerns: All candidates expressed concerns about the salary being lower than expected. Discussions with the council are necessary to negotiate terms.
- Decision: A motion was made and approved to offer the maintenance position to applicant number two.

Ball Diamonds Update

- Concession Stand and Infrastructure: Parks Director Teresa Kovacich has been preparing the concession stand with new stainless-steel tables and painting.
- Turf and Security: Turf installation is underway, with infill expected soon. Security cameras are being installed, and fencing is up, though gates are pending.
- USSA Contract: A contract was secured for a minimum of 15 tournaments per year for the next five years.
- Community Engagement: Efforts to secure additional financing and partnerships are ongoing, with plans to apply for a large grant from the Community Foundation.
- Economic Impact: The project is expected to benefit local businesses and improve facilities for local youth. The need to proceed with the project was emphasized.

Turf Installation and Facility Access

- Investment and Justification
 - The facility has an investment of approximately \$1.7 million, potentially increasing to \$1.8 million based on final estimates.
 - The astroturf allows for games to be played immediately after rain or during rain, provided there is no lightning.
 - Concerns were raised about the facility becoming a private space, but it was clarified that access for residents is a priority.
- Access and Scheduling

- Access will be managed through an online scheduling system, with priority given to local recreational leagues.
- Recreational leagues, specifically Decatur County Girls Softball League and Greensburg Youth Baseball League, have priority from Monday to Thursday, 5 PM to 9:30 PM.
- County residents can reserve the facility online, while out-of-county users may incur a fee.
- Security measures include locks with access controls and cameras to monitor usage and prevent damage.
- Community Engagement
 - Meetings with local baseball and softball board presidents resulted in an agreement to provide six diamonds plus Kohler Park for league use.
 - Greensburg High School has agreed to provide access to their junior high field after 5:30 PM.

Funding and Financial Overview

- Funding Sources
 - Funding includes contributions from ARPA, county and city TIF boards, and additional reallocated ARPA funds totaling \$345,000.
 - The city TIF board contributed \$100,000, and the county TIF provided \$400,000.
- Budget Management
 - Bids for building and blacktop work are coming in lower than budgeted, allowing more funds to be allocated to the turf.
 - The anticipated shortfall for the project is approximately \$200,000.
- Additional Funding Proposal
 - A proposal was made to use funds from the "Build Decatur County" line within the EDIT fund, which has been underutilized in recent years.
 - The fund is intended for capital infrastructure projects that promote public health, safety, and economic development.
 - A motion was made by Gabe Nobbe and seconded by Brian Wenning to cover the shortfall using this fund, pending council approval.

Acknowledgments and Project Updates

- Acknowledgments:
 - Appreciation was expressed for the hard work and effort put into the project by Teresa Kovacich, the Parks Department Director, and others involved. The project is seen as valuable and beneficial for the community.
 - Positive feedback was given regarding the progress of the concessions, with an emphasis on the importance of partnering with youth and the county.

Decatur County Highway Department Report

- General Maintenance:
 - Ongoing activities include dirt patching, pothole filling, bush whacking, grading roads, bedding gravel, and tree trimming.
 - Efforts are being made to prepare roads for the CCMG grant by clearing limbs and other obstructions.

- Cutter Training:
 - Four employees attended Cutter 3 training, and two attended Cutter 1. This training is essential for tree trimming and storm damage management.
- CCMG 2025-1 Grant:
 - Decatur County and the town of Millhousen were approved for the CCMG 2025-1 grant. Assistance was provided to Millhousen in their application process.
- Guardrail and Intersection Repairs:
 - Completion of guardrail installation at 400-700. Recommendations were made for repairing intersections.
- CCMG 2024-2 Bid Submission:
 - Deadline for bid submission was March 17th at 8:45. INDOT has allowed an extension until the 21st due to previous disqualification issues.

Court Services Grant Request

- Grant Details:
 - Two grants are received annually: \$239,400 from the Department of Corrections for probation and community corrections salaries, and \$120,275 from the Indiana Office Court Services.
 - The grants are for the period from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026.
- Approval:
 - A motion was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe and approved to move forward with the grant applications.

ARC of Decatur County – Paul Pank

- Acknowledgment and Funding:
 - Appreciation was expressed for the county's support of the ARC of Decatur County, which aids individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
 - Funds are used for local residents and support activities such as the Rainbow Camp and special education needs.

YMCA Roof Replacement and Repairs

- Project Overview
 - The original contract for replacing the roof and some repairs was valued at \$1,276,900.
 - The completed portion to date amounts to \$448,764.80.
 - The remaining balance to finish, including retainage, is \$850,573.44.
 - This project is managed by the YMCA, with the county acting as a pass-through for the funds.
- Funding
 - A \$500,000 grant was received from OCRA.
 - The YMCA raised the remaining funds required for the project.
- Decision
 - A motion was made by Brian Wenning, seconded by Gabe Nobbe to approve the payout.
 - The motion was carried unanimously.

Tax Sales and Commissioner Sales

- Overview by Zach Hughes from SRI

- Discussion focused on Commissioner sales and certificate sales.
- The certificate sale or deed sale involves leftover parcels from the fall tax sale.
- Parcels are eligible if they are at least the prior year spring delinquent on taxes.
- Current Situation
 - The list of leftover parcels is growing, prompting the need for action.
- Sales Process
 - Certificate sales are designed to minimize losses on parcels unlikely to sell.
 - Minimum bids are recommended at \$150 to \$200 to attract interest.
 - The redemption period for buyers is 120 days, shorter than the typical full year.
- Fees and Costs
 - Fees for certificate sales are 15% of the bid, typically lower than per parcel fees.
 - No fee is collected if parcels do not sell.
- Current List
 - The current list includes 23 properties, with 21 located at Lake McCoy Resort.

Fuel Bid Opening

- Bid Details
 - The bid was received from Keystone, based in Indianapolis.
 - Prices for various fuel types were provided, including:
 - 87 Regular: \$1.7519
 - 87 Plus: \$1.8572
 - Premium Diesel Winter On-Road: \$2.3017
 - Premium Diesel Winter Off-Road: \$2.30
 - K1 Kerosene: \$3.0700
 - Number 2 Diesel On-Road: \$2.2367
 - Premium Diesel On-Road: \$2.2817
 - Number 2 Diesel Off-Road: \$2.2397
 - Premium Diesel Off-Road: \$2.2847
 - Partnered with Country Mart as a gas station due to lack of a terminal.
 - Fuel delivery to the highway department includes:
 - 87+ gasoline at \$2.5172.
 - Regular 87 gasoline at \$2.4119.
 - Number one diesel on-road at \$4.17.
 - Number one diesel off-road at \$3.5850.
 - Number two diesel on-road at \$3.1367.
 - Number two diesel off-road at \$2.5497.
 - PDX premium diesel on-road at \$3.1817.
 - PDX premium off-road at \$2.5947.
- Premier Energy:
 - 87 unleaded for tanker delivery to the highway department at \$2.3648.
 - Automated station in Greensburg for 87 unleaded at \$2.655.

- Diesel prices include:
 - Summer off-road diesel at \$3.3341.
 - Summer on-road diesel at \$2.5431.
 - Winter off-road diesel at \$3.1401.
 - Winter on-road diesel at \$2.6602.
 - Premium diesel for off-road at \$2.6581.
 - Winter on-road premium diesel at \$3.25881.
 - Decision-Making Process
 - A comparison of bids will be conducted to ensure compliance and document completeness.
 - The decision on the fuel supplier will be made after thorough analysis.

Community Crossing Grant (CCMG) Bids

- Dave O'Mara Bid
 - Total bid price: \$622,610.84
 - Includes mobilization and demobilization.
- DC Construction Services Bid
 - Total bid price: \$778,530.74
- Globe:
 - Total bid price: \$692,553.77
- Paul Rowe:
 - Total bid price: \$726,528.53
- Decision
 - Motion to accept Dave O'Mara's bid due to previous satisfactory work and lowest bid price.
 - Motion carried unanimously.

Pipe and Material Bids

- Civilcon Bid
 - Civilcon of Jeffersonville, Indiana:
 - Only bidder for pipes and supplies.
 - Bid includes various sizes and types of pipes, aluminum structural plates, and erosion control materials.
- Decision
 - Motion to accept Civilcon's bid for supplying pipes for 2025.
 - Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Material Bids

- Furnished and Applied Materials
 - O'Mara:
 - Bid for furnished and applied materials including stone, asphalt, and other construction materials.
 - Suggestion to accept any and all bids for stone to ensure flexibility in sourcing based on project location.

Bid Review and Comparison

- O'Mara Bid
 - O'Mara's bid includes all necessary components for the project.

- Discussion on whether O'Mara typically bids for pickup only or includes delivery.
- O'Mara did not bid for delivery on the pug mix.
- Globe Bid
 - Globe submitted bids for both pickup and delivery.
 - Globe's prices are generally cheaper than O'Mara's.
- Hot Mix Inc.
 - Hot Mix Inc. is a new point of contact, previously associated with Sunman.
 - Discussion on personnel changes at Hot Mix Inc.

Bid Evaluation Process

- All bids will be compiled into a spreadsheet for easier comparison.
- A decision will be made at the next commissioner's meeting.
- Total of three bids received for the mix.

2025 Annual HMA Overlay and Wedging

- Bid Details
 - Five bids received for the 2025 HMA overlay and wedging.
 - Bids include mobilization, demobilization, maintaining traffic, milling, and asphalt application.
- O'Mara Bid
 - Item 7 (HMA wedge and level, type B): \$100 per ton.
 - Item 8 (HMA type B): \$150 per ton.
- Globe's Bid
 - Item 7 (HMA wedge and level, type B): \$96.50 per ton.
 - Item 8 (HMA type B surface): \$98.50 per ton.
- Paul Roe Bid
 - Item 7 (HMA wedge and level): \$110 per ton.
 - Item 8 (HMA type B): \$98 per ton.
- Discussion on Bid Components
 - Explanation of the difference between item 7 and item 8.
 - Costlier part of the process depends on road conditions.

Additional Bids and Comparisons

- Skip Paving and Wedging
 - O'Mara's bid for skip paving and wedging includes:
 - Base: \$200 per ton.
 - Intermediate: \$225 per ton.
 - Wedge and level: \$250 per ton.
 - Surface: \$300 per ton.
- Globe's Bid for Skip Paving
 - Base: \$92 per ton.
 - Intermediate: \$95 per ton.
 - Wedge and level: \$97 per ton.
 - Surface: \$120 per ton.
- Bridge Resurfacing
 - Globe's bid for bridge resurfacing includes:
 - Milling: \$12 per square yard.
 - Wedge and level: \$100 per ton.
 - Surface: \$120 per ton.
 - O'Mara's bid for bridge resurfacing includes:

- Milling: \$25 per square yard
- Wedge and level: \$200 per ton
- Surface: \$300 per ton.

CCMG 2025-1 Project Bids

- Pavement Solutions
 - Total bid: \$2,178,440.35
- Globe
 - Total bid: \$2,348,000.
- SC Construction and Materials
 - Total bid: \$1,991,648.22.
- Evergreen Roadworks
 - Total bid: \$2,110,346.09

Stone and Material Bids

- Rush County Stone Company
 - Bid submitted for stone materials.
- USA (Columbus)
 - Bid submitted for stone materials.
- New Point Stone
 - Bid submitted for stone materials.

Commissioners moved to accept all bids and will announce bid winners next meeting.

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 April 7th, beginning at 6:00 P.M. in room 106.

Attest: _____

Date: _____