Martin County

THE MARTIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
June 9, 2026
MINUTES

The Martin County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular session on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, in the Commissioners' Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Commissioners present were Paul R. George, Retha Warner, and Aaron Summers. Also present was Attorney David Lett and Auditor Michelle Norris.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:45 p.m.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CLAIMS

The minutes from the regular meeting of May 26, 2026, were approved with a motion made by Commissioner Summers, seconded by Commissioner Warner. All in favor, motion passed. A motion was made by Commissioner Warner to approve the claims and allowances, seconded by Commissioner Summers. All in favor, motion passed.

RE: HIGHWAY UPDATES

President George opened discussion by noting news regarding the gas tax suspension that has been extended by the Governor for another thirty-one days, which Commissioner Summers clarified is through July 7, 2026. Highway Superintendent Scott Seals stated suspension of the gas tax is good for the public, but not good for highway departments. President George noted that the Governor had indicated he was not opposed to drawing on reserves to assist highway department losses, though that remains to be seen.

Highway Superintendent Seals reported that all equipment is currently up and running, and that the department is hoping to begin chip and seal operations within the next few weeks, weather permitting. Superintendent Seals stated the John Deere mower experienced minor issues the day of the meeting but had otherwise operated for most of the day.

President George requested that Superintendent Seals bring a list of road names planned for chip and seal to the next meeting. Superintendent Seals also reported that Calcar, the contractor responsible for the Community Crossings project, had been delayed by weather and is now anticipating completion in early July 2026. Brickyard Road and Church Street are the two remaining roads to be completed in the CCMG 2026-01 project. President George asked if oil prices for chip and seal had increased. Superintendent Seals reported that as of the meeting date, the county's contract has not yet been affected by price increases, and that the current vendor has no immediate plans to raise prices, though the option remains available in their agreement.

Superintendent Seals requested the Board's input on reinstating a previously eliminated Operator with CDL position within the Highway Department. He explained that when he first assumed the position of Superintendent, the role was eliminated and the remaining staff received corresponding pay increases, but that current operational demands warrant restoring the position. He clarified this would apply to the 2027 budget cycle and would not affect current employees' pay. The Commissioners were in agreement that the position could be reinstated. Commissioner Summers made a motion to reinstate the previously eliminated Operator with CDL position to the Highway Department, seconded by Commissioner Warner. All in favor, motion passed.

Superintendent Seals further reported that mowing operations are ongoing with two to three mowers running simultaneously, and that the department expects to be caught up within the next couple of weeks. He noted that bridge cleaning and weed control around bridges has also been a recent focus. In response to Commissioner Warner's inquiry, Superintendent Seals confirmed the department currently has two summer part-time employees and one regular part-time employee, noting that difficulty finding full-time applicants led to filling positions on a part-time basis.

Commissioner Summers noted he had received several calls regarding Bellgrade Road and reported that he personally drove the road three times over the past three weeks. He observed two potholes located on the side of the road and indicated that while he acknowledged resident concerns, he did not find the road to be critical as compared to other county roads. He noted the issues would be addressed in the future but likely not during the current year. Superintendent Seals confirmed that patching operations are active, with approximately four tons of patching material used on the day of the meeting and four tons used the previous day. Auditor Michelle Norris relayed appreciation from Monty Gregory regarding the Highway Department's attention to Love Cemetery Road. President George asked Attorney David Lett for an update on bridge #44. Attorney Lett reported that he is scheduled to meet with the relevant outside attorney the following week.

RE: RECORDER'S OFFICE DISASTER RECOVERY SERVICES AGREEMENT

Attorney Lett reported that the Recorder's Office had presented him with a proposed Disaster Recovery Agreement from CSI Computer Systems for review. Attorney Lett stated he had reviewed the agreement and found no legal objections. Copies of the agreement had been distributed to the Board. Commissioner Warner made a motion to approve the Disaster Recovery Services Agreement between CSI Computer Systems, Incorporated and the Martin County Recorder, seconded by Commissioner Summers. All in favor, motion passed.

RE: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS MONITORING AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES AGREEMENT — TRACK GROUP

Attorney Lett presented a request from Community Corrections to change their provider for ankle bracelet monitoring equipment and associated services to Track Group. Attorney Lett noted that the agreement is for one year with no automatic renewal provision, and that he had no legal objections to the contract. Commissioner Warner made a motion to approve the agreement with Track Group for Community Corrections monitoring and associated services for one year, seconded by Commissioner Summers. All in favor, motion passed.

RE: RECONCILIATION ENTRIES

Auditor Norris presented an issue that has been on at least the last two State Board of Accounts audits, the last being conducted in November of the prior year, pertaining to treasurer's unreconciled entries dating back to 2012. Auditor Norris explained that the county uses Harris software, on which both the Auditor's office and the Treasurer's office maintain balanced records with each other; however, manual entries required due to payroll processing errors have resulted in discrepancies between both offices' records and the bank account. These errors are entry-based rather than cash-based, meaning no actual funds are missing. The discrepancies span from 2012 through approximately 2023 and involve three different sets of Treasurers and Auditors. Auditor Norris reported that over the past six months, her office has submitted help desk tickets with Harris, but due to the vendor having only one help desk representative specializing in this software, no resolution has been provided.

With the State Board of Accounts returning for follow-up review, Auditor Norris consulted with the audit manager last week regarding how to resolve the issue. The total identified discrepancy consists of deposits totaling $16,465.72 and withdraws totaling $3,950.87, resulting in a net difference of $12,514.85. The State Board of Accounts recommended that, rather than expending further staff time attempting to trace and correct individual entries dating back fourteen years, the County should issue a check payable to Martin County in the amount of $16,465.72 for deposit entries to be returned to the General Fund and in addition, a receipt will need to be entered in the amount of $3,950.87 for withdraw entries to be returned to the General Fund.

Attorney Lett emphasized for the record that these discrepancies span fourteen years and that the county has made diligent efforts to resolve them through the software vendor. Auditor Norris confirmed that her office has done everything within its power to address the matter and expressed the desire to have it resolved. A motion was made by Commissioner Summers to reconcile the difference between the auditor's and treasurer's fund balance to the bank account balance with a net difference of $12,514.85 from the General Fund unappropriated per the recommendation of the State Board of Accounts. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

RE: LIBRARY RIBBON CUTTING — BOARD ACKNOWLEDGMENT

President George offered a brief announcement on behalf of the full Board, acknowledging the recent ribbon cutting ceremony held at the Shoals Public Library. President George expressed the Board's appreciation to the Library Board, the Friends of the Library, and all donors who contributed to the project. Commissioner Summers noted the significant effort he had personally witnessed being put into the project. Commissioner Warner praised the renovation for preserving the character of the building while incorporating meaningful upgrades. President George extended congratulations to all involved, stating the finished result looks wonderful.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Warner and seconded by Commissioner Summers. All were in favor, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

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Paul R. George

Retha Warner
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Retha Warner

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Aaron C. Summers

ATTEST: _______________________________
Michelle Norris, Martin County Auditor