

Randolph County Council

May 3, 2023

The Randolph County Council met for its regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Council President David Lenkensdofer, Tom Chalfant, Mike Stine, Tom Kerns, Todd Holaday, Missy Williams and Beverly Fields. Also present was County Auditor Laura J Martin.

Council President David Lenkensdofer presided.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing- Steven and Charity Cox Abatement

Dave said first item on the agenda is a public hearing for Steven and Charity Cox.

Meeks said this is actually a public hearing so she can just talk for three minutes and then you let everybody talk, and then you can have, so public hearing would just be anybody that wants to come and talk.

Dave said okay. Go right ahead.

Charity Cox said we just want to say thank you to all of you. Obviously, this is a huge project. It's a big undertaking, and we appreciate you guys helping us to help get our feet underneath us the next few years. We really, really do appreciate it.

Dave said okay.

Meeks said I would just have her sit down and then anybody else, then when you go to your regular meeting, you can have her back up and ask questions.

Dave said would anybody in the audience like to speak in favor or against this project for the hearing? Seeing none.

Meeks said so you'll close that public hearing.

Dave said close this public hearing out.

Public Hearing for EDPR Riverstart Solar Park IV

Meeks said we'll do the next public hearing, and that's EDPR.

Dave said I'd like to have the representatives from EDPR come up.

Meeks said so again, this is just a public hearing so you guys have three minutes to talk and then you go back. You got three minutes and then whoever else wants to speak can have three minutes. Just on the Riverstart IV Solar Park.

Austin Kirch said I will just give brief updates on Riverstart IV then for the next three minutes. Recently, we received preliminary approval with no objections from the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, approximately two months ago. I received that approval about a week ago. Last week we completed phase one of our environmental studies on our project area, and we are in the process of contracting further wetlands and wildlife studies for newly signed land. These contractors will be in the area later this summer completing their studies in coordination with land owners. We are still signing the last land agreements and our planning to begin construction later in the year. We hope to have a commercial operation date in 2024. But it is possible this could slip into 2025, depending on a number of factors, including supply chain and interconnection issues. Last Friday we submitted drafts of the economic development agreement, decommission agreement and the road use agreement to Meeks for his review. We are hoping to receive feedback this week and plan to have final copies prepared for execution at the May 15th meeting. We look forward to working with you in getting this project to construction and onward to completion. Thank you.

Grace said finally we're here today to talk about the final resolution to the tax economic revitalization area, and we have given Meeks some paperwork, and I know you all have your own as well. So, we're happy to answer any questions about that.

Meeks said we'll have questions and answers later. So, if you guys want to sit, then you can have anybody else

Dave said okay. Thanks for that. Anybody else like to speak in favor or against this project?

Drew Cleveland said do you allow questions from?

Meeks said this is, you have three minutes and you could come up and ask your question, but then during the regular meeting if they want to answer it. This is just a three-minute public hearing that would allow you to come up and express your concerns. State your name.

Drew Cleveland said yes, I just had some questions. Drew Cleveland. As far as the project and the taxes, trustee, so I got a letter from Laura I guess, about this and economic revitalization zone, so I was just curious as far as the assessment, can anybody answer questions on that or?

Meeks said we've been discussing that, we can, but if you are just having general questions about those things, we'll be able to answer that after the meeting. That won't be a problem.

Drew Cleveland said okay.

Meeks said probably during the meeting after.

Drew Cleveland said I don't have any comments other than, or questions.

Meeks said this is just really for or against the project.

Dave said anybody else want to speak on behalf, in favor or against this project? Seeing none, I'll close this public hearing out.

Meeks said then you will open your regular scheduled meeting.

Dave said we will now open our regular meeting and starting with the resolutions, is that?

Meeks said yep you start with the resolutions. It's just your regular meeting right now, so whatever you want to do, how you want to handle it.

Dave said I think I'd like to have whoever would like to speak in favor or against they come up and this will be a time Drew if you want to.

Meeks said well I'd have the company up and Drew's questions are about the assessments.

Dave said okay.

Meeks said how the assessment works, why don't I kind of, there's a full assessed valuation for the project. And what the county council has been proposed is a ten-year 100% tax abatement for that project. So, when that project rolled off, Union or Stoney.

Drew said Stoney Creek.

Meeks said Stoney Creek. Okay I'm sorry. So, the Stoney Creek would get a bump in their assessed valuation. Right now, they're not losing anything for the project, but they're not gaining anything either. So, the land that's been assessed today, it's going to be assessed the same way tomorrow, for the next ten years. So, when that kind of rolls off, you're going to see a decrease in your tax rate. You're going to see an increase in your assessed valuation. I don't know if Stoney Creek is up against the property tax caps. I suspect they're not. So, it would be helpful. I would say that. Does that answer your question?

Drew Cleveland said do you know the specifics? I think it's \$25,000 an acre assessed value that they would be taxed? And how much of that.

Meeks said that sounds like a lot. I think it's like \$8,000.00. So, the State of Indiana assesses real estate that are in these solar projects that differently. We're in the mid-tier and I thought the top tax rate the State can tax, we are allowed to tax utilities like this, something like 14 or \$15,000.00. But that's the max. I did not bring that max. That's put out by the department of local government finance, and you can actually get that at the Assessors office. He has that, those numbers.

Drew Cleveland said okay.

Meeks said but that's the maximum. I'm not sure if we have been assessing it at the max. When I say not sure, I know we have not been assessing it at the max.

Tom Chalfant said and that's the assessor's responsibility?

Meeks said and that's totally assessors. That's not us, up here.

Drew Cleveland said so there's some flexibility as far as how they value that. They could go up to the max.

Meeks said yeah, the DLGF puts out the maximum tax rate.

Drew Cleveland said I thought it was a standard rate.

Meeks said well, not to exceed rate is what. And generally speaking, most people go to that not to exceed rate. It's like the speed limit. You're not even going 50 in the 55. Does that answer I hope?

Drew Cleveland said yes. Thank you.

Dave said okay is it okay to bring EDPR in?

Meeks said yeah if they want to talk about, whatever they want to talk about.

Dave said is there anything else you'd like to talk about?

Grace Minkis said yeah, I was going to.

Dave said okay, come on up Grace.

Grace Minkis said okay. Good morning. We provided the commissioners with a Riverstart III construction update on Monday, so just wanted to give you all the same update. In the month of April, the project reached full notice to proceed. So, all of the parcels are, have commenced construction, which is a big milestone for the project. Last time I was here in February or March, we discussed police presence on State Highway Road 1, which is the entrance, exit of the laydown yard. Folks are still there monitoring the area. So, that's proving to be useful for traffic goers and our safety. In terms of actual construction, the steel piles that they're driving are at about 91% completion. So, the noisiest part of construction is on its way out. Panel deliveries, we're seeing some delays with supply chain issues, but we're hoping for a late summer delivery, but potentially that could be delayed. And then in terms of our sub-station, which is located just off of State Highway 1, that access road is at about 98% complete. So, it's almost done, building that road. If you drive past, you'll see it facing east. And then our largest delivery for the substation is due in the third week of May, our transformer. That's all my update is. If there's any questions on the project?

Dave said just a quick question. You said that all the county has seen a lot of substations being modified or increased, is that a partnership with you and I&M or is that just I&M only?

Grace Minkis said that's, if you're talking about the one off of Modoc, that's IMP or AEP expanding their infrastructure. That's not in conjunction with us.

Dave said okay. I know they're all over the county, the substations are just growing, which it's a good thing for Randolph County because we're up to date, and a lot of infrastructure has been updated. It's just been huge for us, so. Alright thanks Grace.

Grace Minkis said great. Thank you all.

Dave said Charity, did you have anything else you'd like to bring up?

Charity Cox said no, just that I know next week we have concrete coming in, siding should be going on this week. We're projected, to be done our builder said, in mid-June. We were hoping to be done by June 1st, but Mother Nature they set back until about mid-June, so I'm hoping July 1st we're open. And this, tomorrow or Friday, we're going to open up bookings for November 2023 and beyond. That's our big thing that we're working on.

Dave said okay. Any questions for Charity?

Charity Cox said and we have been working with Brittany Armstrong, our interior designer, and she's doing a fabulous job to make sure that we bring Randolph County a beautiful facility.

Dave said okay, great. That's good news. Any other questions that we may have before we start the resolutions?

Resolution 2023-11

Dave said the first resolution I have is 2023-11. This is a resolution of the county council of Randolph waiving non-compliance of certain conditions concerning the grant of a deduction for rehabilitation or redevelopment for real property for Steven and Charity Cox. Any questions about that? I think you all received copies from Meeks on this. If there's no questions, I'd entertain a motion on 2023-11.

RESOLUTION 2023-11

A Resolution of the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana
Waiving Non-Compliance of Certain Conditions
Concerning the Granting of a Deduction for
Rehabilitation or Redevelopment of Real Property
For Steven and Charity Cox

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana ("Council"),
as follows:

WHEREAS, Steven and Charity Cox ("Applicant"), is installing a 120' x 80' Building (plus 15' porch) for an Event Venue named Willow Edge, LLC, (the "Project") located at 627 West 100 South, Winchester, IN 47394 (the "Real Estate").

WHEREAS, the Real Estate has been designated an Economic Revitalization Area.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has expressed its desire to request a tax abatement for the Project.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has requested a waiver on non-compliance pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a) because it has begun the Project prior to (a) filing its statement of benefits form with the designating body; and (b) its initiation of the redevelopment of the Real Estate.

WHEREAS, the Applicant requests a waiver of non-compliance pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a), to waive the requirements that the Real Estate be designated an Economic Revitalization Area before the initiation of the redevelopment of the Real Estate.

WHEREAS, the Applicant requests a waiver of non-compliance pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a), to waive the making of the required findings of fact before designating the Real Estate an Economic Revitalization Area.

WHEREAS, the Applicant requests a waiver of non-compliance pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a), to waive the requirements of filing a timely and complete deduction application.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana, that Randolph County grants Applicant's request and the County hereby waives all items of non-compliance as outlined in I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Randolph County, specifically waives the following requirements:

1. The filing of a completed statement of benefits form to the designating body prior to the hearing required under I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5(c).
2. The filing of a complete statement of benefits form to the designating body prior to the initiation of the redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Estate designated under I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a)2(A).
3. The failure to designate the Real Estate an Economic Revitalization Area prior to the initiation of the redevelopment or rehabilitation designated under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a)3(A)and (C).
4. The failure to make the required findings of fact before designating the Real Estate as an Economic Revitalization Area as designated under I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3(a)4.
5. The failure to timely file a complete deduction application.

Bev said I move that the council pass Resolution 2023-11 after the first reading.

Todd seconded the motion. Six aye votes. One nay vote (Tom Chalfant). Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-12

Dave said the next resolution before us is 2023-12, county council of Randolph County, Indiana, confirmatory resolution granting tax abatement to Steven and Charity Cox. Do I have a motion to approve?

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-12

COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA
CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT
TO STEVEN AND CHARITY COX

WHEREAS, Steven and Charity Cox (the "Applicant"), has filed its Statement of Benefits with Randolph County Indiana (the "County"), stating its desire to install a 120' x 80' Building (plus 15' porch) for an Event Venue named Willow Edge, LLC, at its facilities in Winchester, Indiana (the "Project") on real estate located at 627 West 100 South, Winchester, Indiana 47394, as more particularly described on the attached Exhibit "A" (the "Real Estate"), which Project will be at a cost of approximately \$600,000.00.

WHEREAS, the development and construction of the Project will result in the creation of 2-3 part-time jobs at a total payroll of \$1,000.00.

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, has designated the Real Estate an Economic Revitalization Area;

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, at its meeting held this date, has been asked to make findings as a result of the filing of Applicant's Statement of Benefits;

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-2, on the April 4, 2023 adopted Resolution No. 2023-07 (the "Preliminary Resolution"), preliminarily granting personal property tax abatement in the Area for a period of five (5) years;

WHEREAS, pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, the County Council published notice (the "Notice") of the adoption and substance of the Preliminary Resolution in accordance with I. C. 5-3-1, and the County Auditor file a copy of the Notice, and the application and related Statement of Benefits for the Project (collectively, the "Application") with each taxing unit that has authority to levy property taxes in the geographic area where the Area is located;

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, at its meeting held on the May 3, 2023, heard and considered any remonstrance and objections from all interested persons;

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, at its meeting held this date, has been asked to confirm the Preliminary Resolution;

WHEREAS, the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana, in the Preliminary Resolution, made the following findings based on its review of the Statement of Benefits filed therewith:

1. The estimate of the costs of the rehabilitation and development of the Project are reasonable for such rehabilitation and development;
2. The estimate of the number of individuals whose employment will be created can be reasonably expected as a result of the rehabilitation and development of the Project;
3. The Project will consist of a 120' x 80' Building (plus 15' porch) on the Real Estate;
4. The creation of 2-3 part time jobs on the Real Estate will have a positive effect upon the economy of Randolph County, Indiana, by helping create employment; and
5. The totality of the benefits to be derived from the rehabilitation and the development of the Project is sufficient to justify the deduction created by the approval of tax abatement.

WHEREAS, the County, through the County Council, at its meeting held this date, desires to take final action confirming the Preliminary Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Council of Randolph County Indiana, approves deductions from the real estate taxes to be assessed against the Real Estate over a term of five (5) years, according to the following abatement schedule under IC 6-1.1-12.1-17 (all as in effect on the date hereof):

Deduction Schedule for Personal Property

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	PERCENTAGE AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION
1 ST	100%
2 ND	80%
3 RD	60%
4 TH	40%
5 TH	20%

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana, hereby confirms that the deductions to be taken as a result of the abatement approved hereby shall be determined by applying the applicable percentages to the assessed value of the real estate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the confirmation of tax abatement as herein approved is consistent with the objectives to be achieved by I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-1 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the confirmation of tax abatement shall be attached to and made a part of the Real Estate and shall survive the transfer of the Real Estate and/or the Project by the Applicant to any other individual or entity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Auditor of Randolph County, Indiana shall certify copies of this Resolution and retain a certified copy of the same in said Auditor's office and deliver a copy to the Assessor of Randolph County, and that a copy of said Resolution shall also be delivered to the Applicant.

Missy made motion to approve. Bev seconded the motion. Six aye votes. One nay vote (Tom Chalfant). Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-13

Dave said next resolution I have is 2023-13, county council of Randolph County, Indiana, confirmatory resolution for the designation of an economic revitalization area. This is also for Steven and Charity Cox. Do I have a motion to approve?

RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 13

COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA, CONFIRMATORY
RESOLUTION FOR THE DESIGNATION OF AN ECONOMIC
REVITALIZATION AREA

WHEREAS, the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana ("County") has been requested by Steven and Charity Cox (the "Applicant"), to find, pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-2, that a certain area in the County, the boundaries of which are described in the Declaratory Resolution referred to below (the "Area"), is an Economic Revitalization Area;

WHEREAS, the Applicant is installing a 120' x 80' Building (plus 15' porch) for an Event Venue named Willow Edge, LLC, located at 627 West 100 South, Winchester, IN 47394 ("the Project");

WHEREAS, the County Council has reviewed the Application;

WHEREAS, the improvement of the Area described in the Application will be of public utility and will be to the benefit and welfare of all citizens and taxpayers of the County;

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2, on April 4, 2023 the County Council passed Resolution 2023-06, preliminarily approving real property tax deductions for the redevelopment or rehabilitation in the Area for a period of 5 years;

WHEREAS, pursuant to I. C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, the County Council published notice ("the Notice") of the adoption and substance of the Declaratory Resolution in accordance with I.C. 5-3-1, and the Auditor filed a copy of the Notice and the Application with each taxing unit that has authority to levy property taxes in the geographic area where the Area is located;

WHEREAS, at the Public Hearing held on May 3, 2023, the County Council received, heard, and considered any remonstrances and objections from all interested persons; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, the County Council desires to take final action confirming the Declaratory Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council, that: (i) the Area is within the County; and (ii) the Area has become undesirable for, or impossible of, normal development and occupancy because of a lack of development, cessation of growth, or other factors which have prevented a normal development and use of property.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that based on the information in the Application describing the Project, the County Council makes the following findings:

- (1) The estimate of value of the rehabilitation and development of the Project is reasonable for a project of that nature.
- (2) The estimate of the number of individuals who will be employed can be reasonably expected to result from proposed rehabilitation and development of the Project.
- (3) The estimate of the annual salaries of those individuals who will be employed can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed rehabilitation and development of the Project.
- (4) The other benefits about which information was requested are benefits that can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed rehabilitation and development of the Project.
- (5) The totality of benefits is sufficient to justify the granting of real property tax abatement to the Applicant.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, by the County Council, that the Area is hereby declared to be an "economic revitalization area" pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, by the County Council, that the period for personal property tax deductions for redevelopment or rehabilitation in the Area shall be 5 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on the information in the Application and the foregoing findings, the County Council hereby approves and allows the Applicant real property tax deductions for 5 years for the rehabilitation in the Area as part of the Project.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the County Council hereby confirms, without modification, the Declaratory Resolution and this action confirming the Declaratory Resolution is final, except for the limited rights of appeal provided under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5.

Bev made motion to approve. Todd seconded the motion. Six aye votes. One nay vote (Tom Chalfant). Motion carried.

Dave said the last piece of paperwork for Steven and Charity Cox is what we call a SB1. It's an annual report that has to be filed to the county. It only requires the signature of the president of the county council. So, I'd like a motion to sign this document.

Bev said I make a motion to approve the County Council President's signature on the document for Charity and Steven Cox.

Missy said second.

Dave said it's been moved and seconded to give the authorization of the county council president to sign the SB1 for Steven and Charity Cox. All in favor.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-14

Dave said we're on to EDPR, this is resolution 2023-14. It's for the county council of Randolph County, Indiana Final economic revitalization area resolution for real and personal property tax abatement. I'd entertain a motion.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA

FINAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 2023-14

REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

WHEREAS, Riverstart Solar Park IV LLC ("Riverstart") has received from the County Council of Randolph County, Indiana (the "Council") a ten-year real property tax deduction period and a ten-year personal property tax deduction schedule for a proposed solar-powered electric generating facility project of approximately one hundred fifty (150) megawatts of new generating capacity, which will include real property redevelopment or rehabilitation and installation of new manufacturing equipment under Resolution No. 2023-08 (the "Project");

WHEREAS, Riverstart has advised the Council that it intends to construct the Project in Union and Stoney Creek Townships, as further described in the map attached to Resolution No. 2023-08 as Exhibit A (collectively, the “Development Area”);

WHEREAS, the Development Area has been designated an economic revitalization area (an “ERA”) for purposes of permitting such deductions;

WHEREAS, the property within the ERA, as depicted on Exhibit A, is the real property (the “Real Property”) upon which the new manufacturing equipment will be located;

WHEREAS, Riverstart has advised the Council that the Project will involve significant investment in new manufacturing equipment on the Real Property;

WHEREAS, Riverstart submitted to the Council a form SB-1/UD, Statement of Benefits in connection with the Project, and provided all information and documentation necessary for the Council to make an informed decision (the “Statement”);

WHEREAS, the Council is authorized under the provisions of I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-1 *et seq.* to designate areas of the County as an ERA for the purposes described herein;

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the Statement submitted by Riverstart and has conducted a complete and proper investigation of the Real Property and determined that the area qualifies as an ERA under Indiana statutes;

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the following factors under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-17 in connection with the Project:

1. The total amount of Riverstart’s investment in real and personal property under the Project;
2. The number of new full-time equivalent jobs to be created under the Project;
3. The average wage of the new employees under the Project compared to the state minimum wage; and
4. The infrastructure requirements for the taxpayer’s investment under the Project;

(collectively, the “Deduction Schedule Factors”); and

WHEREAS, Riverstart and the Council intend and understand that in the event that the Real Property is designated an ERA, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2(i)(6), any real and personal property tax deductions received by Riverstart would be subject to conditions more particularly described in that certain economic development agreement to be entered into by Randolph County, Indiana and Riverstart with respect to the Project (the “Economic Development Agreement”).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS FOUND, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED by the Council that:

1. That the estimate of the value of the redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property is reasonable for projects of that nature and the estimate of the cost of the new manufacturing equipment to be installed in connection with the Project is reasonable for projects of that type.

2. That the estimate of the number of individuals who will be employed or whose employment will be retained as a result of the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the installation of the new manufacturing equipment can reasonably be expected to result from the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment.

3. That the estimate of annual salaries of those individuals who will be employed or whose employment will be retained can reasonably be expected to result from the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment.

4. That the number of individual opportunities for employment, both temporary and permanent, and the compensation to be paid to employees, along with the value of the acquisition and construction of improvements as a result of the Project, create benefits of the type and quality anticipated by the Council within the ERA and can reasonably be expected to result from the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment.

5. That the benefits described in the Statement can reasonably be expected to result from the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment.

6. That the totality of benefits from the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property and the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment is sufficient to justify an abatement schedule under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-17, including a ten-year real property tax deduction period and a ten-year personal property tax deduction schedule as specified herein.

7. That the Deduction Schedule Factors in connection with the Project justify granting the deduction schedule for both real and personal property under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-17 as specified herein.

8. That the Real Property constitutes an "economic revitalization area," as defined by I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-1(1).

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing, the Council further RESOLVES, FINDS AND DETERMINES:

1. That all of the conditions for the designation of the ERA and all of the requirements for the tax deductions to be granted hereby have been met, and the foregoing findings are true and all information required to be submitted has been submitted in proper form.

2. That the Statement submitted by Riverstart is hereby approved.

3. That the Real Property is hereby designated as an ERA pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-1 *et seq.*

4. That all prior actions of the Council as reflected herein are hereby confirmed and Riverstart is entitled to real property tax deductions under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-4 for the proposed redevelopment or rehabilitation of the Real Property as part of the Project for a period of ten years and in accordance with the following abatement schedule under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-17, and personal property tax deductions under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-4.5 for the proposed installation of new manufacturing equipment as part of the Project for a period of ten years and in accordance with the following abatement schedule* under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-17, (all as in effect on the date hereof):

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	% ABATED
1	100%
2	100%
3	100%
4	100%
5	100%
6	100%
7	100%
8	100%
9	100%
10	100%

* for any aggregate cost of real property improvements and new manufacturing equipment in excess of \$226 million, Riverstart shall receive deductions in the following amounts, expressed as a portion of the assessed value: (i) first year - 100%; (ii) second year - 90%, (iii) third year - 80%, (iv) fourth year - 70%; (v) fifth year - 60 %; (vi) sixth year - 50%; (vii) seventh year - 40%; (viii) eighth year - 30%; (ix) ninth year - 20%; and (x) tenth year - 10%.

5. That the Council has held a public hearing for the purpose of receiving remonstrances and objections after public notice thereof, all as required by law.

6. That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

7. This Resolution is supplementary to and in addition to any prior resolutions and, to the extent any prior resolutions are inconsistent herewith, they are hereby modified.

8. That, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the granting of the tax deductions described herein is conditioned on and subject to the terms in the Economic Development Agreement, and such deductions shall not be granted unless an Economic Development Agreement is executed between the said parties.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank; Signatures Follow.]

Tom Chalfant made motion to approve. Tom Kerns seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said the last document I have here for Riverstart Solar Park IV is the SB1. Again, this only needs signed by the county council president.

Tom Chalfant made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said we've signed this SB1 for Riverstart, looks like maybe EDPR has not signed it yet. So, we'll have to have him sign this document. I think that's all the business we have with EDPR and Charity Cox. So, thanks so much for coming in, and appreciate all you guys' support, keep moving forward here.

Jake Donham – Comp/Vacation

Jake Donham said the past couple of months, I've been fighting staffing issues. Finally got back up to full staff, almost. I've got one back on some part-time until she's finally released off of some medical stuff. But, in that process, obviously, I wasn't able to get rid of any of my vacation time and my comp time increased quite a bit, covering two shifts for a month and a half or so. My anniversary date is the 17th of this month. And I have 12 vacation days and 22 days of comp time that I, you know, I can't get my comp, I can't get in my vacation because my comp has to be at 60 hours. So, the commissioners okayed carrying over the vacation time so I don't lose it according to our county policy, which is fine, but that just gives me that many more days going into the next year to get rid of, and I'm afraid I'm going to be back here this time next year having the same conversation trying to get rid of time, or carry over. So, that being said, I mean, on the 17th of May, I'm going to gain 18 more days with vacation and personal time and still have, if we carry this over, so I didn't know what the options were. If we could, if there was a way to pay some of those days down or just roll them over. But that's a lot of time to try to get rid of.

Dave said what's the council wish. I think in the past we paid them down.

Tom Kerns said I think we should pay them down. If we were at full staff, we'd be paying out those wages anyways. So, instead, Jake was covering the extra staff,

Dave said so do we take it down to 60 hours?

Jake Donham said the comp has to be at 60 hours before I can get rid of anymore of accumulated time that's given.

Dave said okay. How many hours are we talking about comp time?

Jake Donham said this morning it was 214 total on the comp hours.

Dave so what's the council's wishes on paying, how much are you wanting to pay down, all of it or?

Mike ask what are you wanting?

Jake said the ball's in your court boys. I'm just giving the information. You guys make the decisions, not me.

Tom Kerns said I would recommend we pay it down to only 40 hours left so there's a little bit of a cushion there.

Tom Chalfant said I'll second that motion.

Dave said does that sound.

Laura Martin said where do you want it paid out of because his line only has his salary in there. So, we need to know where want to pay the extra out of.

Dave said we only have one choice.

Tom Kerns said we are fine if we pay it from General.

Laura Martin said yeah, we'll just have to do an appropriation. So, it'll be like next month before we get it paid out.

Dave said okay well I've got a motion and a second to take it down to 40 hours, which is the payout of 174 hours.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said next month's check, is that right Laura?

Laura Martin said I will do the appropriation, and so it will be next month before the money is available.

Elizabeth Kreig – Grant request

Dave said okay Elizabeth Kreig, grant request.

Elizabeth Kreig said just a pass-through grant from Drug Free Randolph County. I've been doing this for several years now to help some of the drug testing that we pay for out of user fees. We typically request \$3,000.00 from Drug Free Randolph County. I know I won't get that much. It'll be even less this year because the collections for drug free are down. So, still going to go ahead and ask.

Dave said it doesn't hurt to ask.

Elizabeth Kreig said no, every little bit helps.

Dave said okay I guess, just need approval. That's through the probation department, \$3,000.00.

Missy made motion to approve. Bev seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Missy said so that organization that Todd Longfellow did, that's kind of gone defunct hasn't it?

Elizabeth Kreig said to reach all Randolph County?

Missy said yeah.

Elizabeth Kreig said I know they've talked about that at Drug Free Randolph County meetings but I was never that involved in Randolph County so I don't know too much about it. I think they're looking to do some combining. That's what I gather.

Rhoda Davis – Amended grant request and payment processing

Rhoda Davis said good morning. So, I am here to talk about the amended grant request. I think you all have copies of that. When I came in February to request the grant application, I had never seen the grant, and I had never seen the budget attached to it. And when I got real with the numbers, when they, the grant came out in the end of February, I realized that with the changes within our department internally, that the 100 series was lacking. So, we did a spread sheet on Excel and had our program director from the state come in on March the 30th. It was a very good meeting. And she came down actually to help me with my grant, which I pretty much had done, but was looking at the budget portion of it, and she said we're not getting grant increases this year across the board, but I recommend that you ask for what you need because you know, we might not be able to give you the full amount, but we'll take into consideration the cost of living changes, increases, and also within your department, the changes. So, she said I would encourage you to ask that. I didn't really want to ask for like, because I haven't hired that administrative assistant yet. I'm working on that piece that projecting out what that could look like for the year 2024. So, what I did was, I put in the 100 series. Basically, those are the changes that is in the, that request, is just to complete that 100 series of what it would look like with those changes. So, I went to the commissioners and they approved that. The advisory board had to approve that. I'm just here to get approval of the council.

Dave said so I'd entertain a motion for the grant for \$268,955.00 through Community Corrections.

Tom Chalfant made a motion to approve. Tom Kerns seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said okay, anything else Rhoda?

Rhoda Davis said yes. I wanted to talk about this new process that we are now required beginning this year quarterly, through the Senate Bill 9. And I did my paperwork if you all want to see what that report process looks like. So, they're requesting that we require this, that we

report this information. And it's actually through our supervised release system that's already set up within our office and it's kind of like our data base that all of our client information goes to. And so, we are required to send this information electronically. And, so, one of the things in this report that they are requesting is they want the assessed fees for all of our clients. So, we have always paid, had our clients, collected cash in our department since 2014. But when, this year when all the changes took place, I actually, because of the lack of staff in our office to verify the money coming in, I just started having the clients coming to the clerk's office and make that payment. And then I've had two zoom meetings with the Indiana Office of Court services, and what they have recommended, and I've also met with the director from Jay County, and she does this, is, on page four where it talks about the total cost of fees levied and collected, they want to see the assessed fees that we are, we are within that quarter. So, the report that was due in April, I had to report from January 1st to March the 31st. And they had told me to get with Mindy because we do not have access to the Odyssey program in order to see those fees assessed. And so, I worked with Mindy. It took her a little over a week to get me that report. It was almost a 40-page report when it came to me. I was supposed to look at the criminal side and be able to see the assessed fees what's going to be a magic number that I just entered into that report. And when I got it and I started going through it, there were a ton of names, ton of pages, one client. And I said this wasn't even the fees. So, I got with Mindy, she said, and I had seen this kind of coming, so I made my own cheat sheet on excel, this was all of our clients, which was a lot of work to do this, and then try to you know, say okay, this is what we collect daily. So, at least I have a number. And so, long story, short, I had to end up getting Mindy a, she said this is not even going to give you the assessed fees. And so, I had to get her a copy of all of our clients in the quarter, send them to her, then she had to go through each individual one and give me a screen shot from here end. And then I entered that number, but then, well I had to actually take all the client files, go through every payment that was made, check everything off, and then when I talked to the Indiana Office of Court Services, she said let me see that on the back end, how much do you have for the assessed fees. And I told her and she goes oh no, I don't have anywhere near that. So, it was thousands of dollars difference. And so, she said give me a client. And I gave her one and looked in, and this was a transfer client, she said it's not built in in the same way like there's, the way that they're entering it, it could be, it's not saying a charge. It could say transfer of funds, just different things going into that. So, there's no real way of getting that assessed amount. So, the fix to this is they said that I should get a bank account and that bank account, so every day, someone would come in and they would make payments, and I want to say off the bat, it would be money orders only, we will not take any cash in our office at this point. That we would, what would happen is the Indiana Office of Court Services would set up through our supervised release system that we already have, they would set up a section for fee collection. And we would assess the fees through our office and when the client would pay, it would generate receipt. At the end of the day, it gives a summary of all the money orders taken, and then I would take that to the bank and deposit that every day. It has to be deposited every day. At the end of the month, it would have to be zeroed out and one check would be written to the Auditors office. So, it's basically what the clerk's office is doing. It would just be we would have that bank account and statutorily, I have to empty that out every month. I talked to Old National Bank and they have agreed to give us an interest free checking at no costs, so it would be free. So, we wouldn't have to worry about any interest coming into the account. I wouldn't have to worry about any fees going out, and they would give us free checks in order to give that check to the auditor every month. I think there's like a 15,000 limit that we could put

in there every month. But then, what would happen, is instead of costing countless hours to go through all of that to try to match what they see on the back end at Indiana Office of Court Services through Odyssey, that number would automatically, populate, and it would cost me a fraction of the time just to reconcile the numbers. So, that's what I'm asking for, if I could just get a bank account so that we can put that in place.

Laura Martin said I might add too, that Rhoda talked to me about this, and we've got the State Board to see if it was okay, and got a reply back that it was. So, it's kind of like the recorder does. She collects fees in her office, but she writes a check to the county at the end of each month and zeroes that out. It's basically, the same thing as what they're wanting to do.

Tom Chalfant said how much do money orders cost?

Rhoda Davis said minimal. I mean, you can get them you know, gas stations, Walmart, the post office. But a lot of our clients will come over and pay with a bank card, and I forget, what does the clerk's office charge, is it three percent to collect that? It would be less than the cost to pay it with a card.

Dave said any other questions for Rhoda? I guess the next thing we need is a motion to approve her to open an account with Old National to make sure she can cover all of this going forward.

Tom Kerns made a motion to approve. Tom Chalfant seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner -Salary Ordinance amendment 2023-12

Mike Haffner said I'm just going to kind of turn that over to Jessica. She knows more in depth about the description of the changes and everything.

Jessica Olson said okay. So, what I believe the document looks like, based on talking to Laura, is a salary ordinance amendment for a position titled highway seasonal laborer. It would be a non-CDL entry position. The request for the dollar amount per hour is \$16.00 an hour. Our hopes for this position, LTAP and I'm not as fluent on it as everyone else, is offering a program this year because a lot of highway departments are running into issues with getting CDL drivers and being about to pay them the rate that is apparently established within private businesses. So, they're going to offer a training program that will allow a person from our department with a Class A unrestricted license, to go through their training process at LTAP and it would certify them to then become trainers for CDL license. So, Jay Long would be the person at the highway that has a Class A unrestricted. Those classes, that class begins July 10th through the 13th, and those are on line classes or actual, virtual, if you will. You've got to be present, you have to check in, you have, so he would do that for that week and then on the 17th and 18th of the following week, he would go to Purdue, finish his training, get certified, and at that point in time, he could come back to our department and train someone else to get their CDL licensing. I believe that's our hope that if we can get some folks in there that seem to be good workers and people we want to keep, we could, at that point in time, see about training, having Jay train them to become CDL drivers. So, that's the path that we were looking at when we presented this position, just trying to get as many CDL drivers in there as we can.

Dave said any questions for Jessica or Mike?

Tom Chalfant said can he train anyone besides county highway employees for CDLs?

Mike Haffner said this LTAP program is made for just strictly state and county employees only. And then there will be on line training but it will be free to the county agencies to go through LTAP since we're a member.

Tom Chalfant said I assume the BMV is on board, they've cooperated with this program too?

Mike Haffner said yeah, they still have to go through the BMV to get their learner's permit, and they'll still have to schedule their driving skills tests just like a normal class, or you know, a company that trains but, potentially, a lot of the classroom environments you go to, it's 4 to \$8,000.00 depending on where you go, well this is basically, almost free to the county agencies. And each county is allowed one representative to go through their training course to become a certified trainer. And then that county will be issued a number so when the student goes on line, you have to put that number in, and they know who is in charge of that program.

Bev said so this salary amendment adds the line for the new people coming in who would be taking this class?

Jessica Olson said well we don't, it adds the line for a seasonal laborer, which can, is obviously, what it means. They're obviously, not going to be driving you know, a truck, you know, and stuff like that. So, there's other things obviously, working on the paver, or doing outside you know, jobs that don't involve them driving a truck would be what they are doing when they come in. We just thought it would be a nice way to evaluate whether or not that would be someone that we would want to take into the training.

Mike Haffner said the county maybe, help me out here, the counties in general, got a labor line which we've already got a labor line. We're just separating this exclusively to highway because we tend to work our high school or college kids in the past, 40 hours a week, but it might just be from a few months, so, and then we would like to get a program started if one of them person is interested in becoming a full-time highway, see what kind of work that they do, to see if we want to offer them that opportunity. So, it kind of puts the highway a little separate than the regular laborers to the county that would just work a few hours a week.

Missy said and the gentleman you are mentioning who is going to do this, do the class, he's for this and he's?

Jessica Olson said Jay Long?

Missy said yes.

Jessica Olson said he's the assistant. Yes.

Mike Haffner said Jay Long is my assistant superintendent.

Missy said so what do we pay part-time summer help right now? What's the hourly rate?

Jessica Olson said under the labor, \$15.

Missy said right, \$15.

Jessica Olson said uh huh.

Missy said so you're wanting to make it different so it's \$16 for those that you've selected who you're going to train?

Jessica Olson said no. It's just going to be anybody that comes in under highway seasonal laborer.

Missy said so they wouldn't have to necessarily stay.

Mike Haffner said no.

Dave said will you be advertising for these positions then?

Mike Haffner said yes. We're looking at advertising that and also the commissioners, they wanted me to try to find a sign or something to put out there to offer that.

Missy said I think he just wants you to put, I think he mentioned the commissioner mentioned just put out a sign, help wanted.

Mike Haffner said right, in general.

Missy said in general to try to get workers.

Dave said any other questions from the council?

Todd said is this for six people, is that what the ordinance says?

Dave said up to six people.

Todd said up to six. How many do we currently have? Do we have any?

Jessica Olson said no, no current laborers.

Todd said so this is an additional type of laborer, not a change in pay rate? Is that right?

Laura said both this is a new line and we're upping it to \$16 instead of \$15 that.

Tom Kerns said the county-wide salary ordinance is \$15 for any department for part-time.

Missy said how many part-time summer help did you have next year and were you able to hire them to keep on of the summer?

Mike Haffner said in the past, we've had several, but the last few years, we have not had any, and we're hoping to try to maybe get up to six positions that I can hire summer help. We've got enough work we can have them do something.

Laura Martin said Jessica remind me, refresh me, because I go through a lot of these. I know I sent you the salary ordinance. So, the current salary ordinance, did we not have a line for a non-CDL, is that why we?

Jessica Olson said right, right.

Laura Martin said so everything even our seasonal our CDL right now?

Jessica Olson said right, yeah.

Laura Martin said so this one would make it so we could hire someone that doesn't already have a CDL?

Jessica Olson said yeah.

Laura Martin said so our current salary ordinance only has for CDL drivers.

Missy said so what if you hire four and we agree to pay \$16.00 an hour, but they say no, I'm just doing this as summer help. I'm, you know, I don't have any intention, so they're still going to get the \$16?

Jessica Olson said according to this proposal, yes.

Dave said any other questions?

Todd said so with the person that you're hiring during the process, are you explaining would you then be saying that we are encouraging this applicant to get their CDL and we're going to provide this free training and so on, so it's, there's a clear understanding when they get the job, there's an intention to try to keep and retain and get a license, on someone?

Jessica Olson said well that's what I would think but that's.

Mike Haffner said well obviously there might be some that's got their goal set on something else and, that we know that right on the get go, we can work with that, but I've got, I've talked to you know, one already, that is graduating high school, that he would love the opportunity to work for the county for multiple years, and his grandfather was a former highway employee, and he knows the system. I would like to be able to hire him and then if he works out, later on, then we,

at least have something set up where we can offer somebody like that an opportunity that normally wouldn't have the opportunity to get a CDL.

Missy said but you could still hire him and he could still go do that program without getting the extra dollar an hour?

Mike Haffner said yes, basically, yes.

Todd said but he couldn't currently, because you have to have a CDL to even get the job, right?

Mike Haffner said yeah, right now, we need.

Missy said but he could be summer help, right? And does he qualify, can he, does he qualify to enter into that program?

Tom Kerns said is there a part-time on it?

Laura Martin said no.

Mike Haffner do we have a part-time line set up.

Jessica Olson said do we have a laborer line Laura?

Laura Martin said yeah, that's what I was asking you.

Jessica Olson said we have a regular laborer line, yes.

Laura Martin said without the CDL.

Jessica Olson said that is set at \$15.

Laura Martin said I can't remember. I know when we first started talking about this, we thought they had to have a CDL, so I couldn't remember that.

Jessica Olson said no. I mean, we do have that, yes. And it doesn't have a limit of the number of people that you can hire into it. It's just a straight line that says part-time labor, \$15.00.

Missy said so somebody hired in as part-time laborer for the summer and then decide I really like this so I'm going to stay on and make this my career, make them stay on the job for a while, then they move up to the next pay rate anyway, correct? If they're no longer summer help.

Tom Kerns said if they got switched to full time

Missy said right.

Jessica Olson said if they get switched to full time, yeah.

Missy said and that's at \$18.00 an hour, is that where we're at?

Laura said \$15.

Missy said \$15.

Todd said part-time is how many hours?

Laura Martin said 28. But seasonal is different.

Jessica Olson said because it allows us to make sure we're within the requirements of how many hours you can work a part-time employee.

Todd said so you can work 40 hours?

Jessica Olson said right, within a certain period of time.

Todd said right.

Dave said but it's more than \$15.00 an hour, what you're saying, that time is.

Jessica Olson said right, yeah.

Tom Kerns said you have to have a CDL with that.

Jessica Olson said they wouldn't be able to move up until they've went through the training program, and then actually became a full-time CDL.

Missy said how long would that training program take them to get their CDL, and you're going to let them do it while at work?

Mike Haffner said if, from what they, other counties has told me, that can take, some counties approach it, some aggressive, some not, I've heard anywhere from six weeks to three months, depending on.

Missy said so who else is doing this?

Mike Haffner said Bartholomew County, Grant County, there was four of them on that email, and LTAP, there was four counties that went through the very first session, I believe she said. We're enrolled in the second session in July that they will have 12 counties. So, there's not a lot of, you know, the original counties were kind of a test to see how the program worked, and then there's a third session set up for some time in October. And I was able to at least sign up for that second session to get going.

Missy said when does that second session start and where does it take place?

Mike Haffner said July 10th is the day of the training. There will be four consecutive days of virtual training, and then the following week, that individual would have to go to the LTAP training, which is at Purdue Lafayette for two days.

Missy said a worker would?

Mike Haffner said just Jay Long. The worker would strictly be at the highway and if we accept him in this program, then he would do so many hours of training, school classroom training, but you know, quite frankly, a lot of that is going to be kind of after budget time, so I guess, you know, we would know a lot more during budget time, how this program is going to work. But, right now, we're just trying to set up a seasonal laborer line just to try to get us the help. And quite frankly, it's, you know, even though we think \$15.00 an hour is an attractive wage, in the real world, you can go to Walmart, McDonalds or Walmart for 15 bucks an hour. So, you know, we're just trying to tweak the pay a little bit to try to entice somebody that potentially wants to have this background, and a possibility of an opportunity to come on board with us, versus going somewhere else.

Dave said any other questions for Mike or Jessica? This is going to be an ordinance to pass this for salary. It's Ordinance 2023-12, an ordinance to amend salary ordinance 2022-31, a Randolph County's highway maintenance and repair budget. So, this will take three readings. I'd entertain a motion.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2022-31
AMENDING RANDOLPH COUNTY'S HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BUDGET

WHEREAS: There has been a change in the 2023 Salary Ordinance with regard to the Randolph County Highway Maintenance and Repair Budget and it is necessary to amend the 2023 Salary Ordinance No. 2022-31 effective pay date June 2, 2023 to add the following:

HIGHWAY SEASONAL LABORER (6)
\$16.00 PER HOUR

IT IS THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOLPH COUNTY INDIANA THAT:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 2022-31, 2023 Salary Ordinance pertaining to Randolph County's HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BUDGET shall be amended to read as follows:

HIGHWAY SEASONAL LABORER
\$16.00 PER HOUR

Tom Chalfant said in light of today's labor market, I would move we pass this ordinance. Tom Kerns seconded the motion.

Dave said it's been moved and seconded we pass Ordinance 2023-12 after the first reading.

6 aye votes. 1 nay vote (Missy). Motion carried.

Dave said okay. I'd entertain a motion to suspend the rules.

Meeks said you can't with a negative vote.

Dave said okay. We'll have to wait until our next meeting to go through this again. Is that correct?

Missy said and I appreciate what you are trying to do, but I look at all kinds of departments. I look at the sheriff's department who you know, if they could add pay to theirs mid-term so.

Mike Haffner said I agree. I fully understand every.

Missy said and they work their way through then, they got their CDL then they just automatically get that bump on their own.

Dave said okay. Thanks for coming in.

Jessica Olson said hey Meeks.

Meeks said yeah.

Jessica Olson said anything on the uniform thing?

Meeks said they haven't discussed it. You'll have to discuss it with the commissioners.

Jessica Olson said I have to, okay.

Meeks said well or somebody would.

Jessica Olson said well I just didn't know if you had anything you could offer as a far as possibilities.

Meeks said it's going to be awful hard to try to collect on something like that.

Jessica Olson said well I figured, but.

Meeks said either way, it's, you cannot, I do not believe you can withhold a person's last paycheck.

Jessica Olson said yeah, I said that too, but I didn't know.

Meeks said so the question of those people leave with uniforms and they're supposed to turn them in, they owe the uniforms back. There just needs to be a policy and I think that would be in the policy handbook with the commissioners.

Jessica Olson said I just didn't, there's nothing in the handbook. And I had just emailed Meeks to ask. We've had several employees, this most recent one that didn't turn in any of his uniforms, and our cost was a \$1,082.54.

Tom Chalfant said do we have, I mean, before the auditor pays the last check or the deposit.

Jessica Olson said that's what I asked.

Meeks said I don't think you can take a person's last check. I mean he owes it to you, I mean he owes it to you.

Tom Chalfant said you can't deduct it from their payroll?

Meeks said not without policy, and I don't even know even with the policy if you can do that.

Tom Chalfant said well I think we ought to have that policy.

Meeks said well the policy would be with that, I mean, with the termination of employment, you need to bring it back. That would be in the policy handbook.

Tom Kerns said if we put the policy in, could we have them sign something when they are hired in.

Meeks said this is a commissioners' deal.

Tom Kerns said the commissioners when they hired on that if they don't turn them in.

Meeks said yeah, when they sign in you would need them to have agreed to that.

Tom Chalfant said are the commissioners aware of this problem?

Jessica Olson said no, I'm sorry. I didn't bring it up. Monday it was kind of busy that day, and I forgot to ask Meeks about it that day. I mean I knew it was a commissioners' thing, I just, Meeks was sitting here, and I just had to ask him. So, no. I didn't know if there were any possibilities. I think a long time ago we had talked about, I don't think we can either pull it from their final check, board of labor and all that kind of stuff.

Laura Martin said yeah, I don't think without going through a small claim and a court order.

Meeks said probably a small claims thing.

Jessica Olson said thank you very much.

Jackie Welch – Resolution

Jackie Welch said so this, the council and commissioners have already approved the funding for this back in May of 2022. The READI people are just back to us and said that they needed some kind of resolution or letter of support for their READI project that you guys.

Dave said okay. Before me, I have resolution 2023-15, Randolph County Council resolution identifying a region for the creation of a regional development plan and participation in the Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Developmental Initiative, known as READI, R E A D I.

RESOLUTION 2023 - 15
OF

RANDOLPH COUNTY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING A REGION FOR THE CREATION OF A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RDP) AND PARTICIPATION IN THE INDIANA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACCELERATION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (READI)

WHEREAS, the state of Indiana, through its Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) launched the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI); and

WHEREAS, House Enrolled Act No. 1001, of the 2021 Session of the Indiana General Assembly provided \$500 million in state appropriations to promote strategic investments that will make Indiana a magnet for talent and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the READI program guidelines call for Indiana communities (counties, cities and towns) to identify their regions, coordinating organization and notify the IEDC by July 1, 2021 of their intent to seek implementation funding up to \$50 million for each region; and

WHEREAS, the IEDC will make available up to \$50,000 for a planning grant to assist in the creation of a Regional Development Plan (RDP) for submission to the IEDC by August 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, both the planning and implementation phases of READI require matching funds from the private sector and local community; and

WHEREAS, the READI program guidelines discourage more than one RDP from the same region and the guidelines state, "overlap between regions could indicate a lack of regional collaboration;" and

WHEREAS, support from local government elected officials of the East Central Indiana Regional Partnership area (www.forgecci.com) are important in the creation of the RDP and critical for its subsequent execution; and

WHEREAS, the East Central Indiana 21st Century Talent Region Designation's application, data and relationships will provide the framework for the creation of the RDP; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the undersigned Randolph County Commissioners determine that Randolph County shall join the East Central Indiana Forge Your Path READI Regional effort as described herein.

Dave said okay. I'd entertain a motion to approve Resolution 2023-15.

Missy made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Todd said is there an opportunity for just general discussion

Dave said oh yeah.

Todd said well I just wanted to talk about that, the salary ordinance amendment from Haffner just to, I don't understand. So, we've had a couple of these now since I've been here, and there was a need to have more CDL drivers. I'd heard that we've started to have like a lot of applicants for that, like 15 applicants. We've gotten by a couple years without any part-time or full-time help, but we're talking about bringing up to six people to do what? I don't know what they would be doing if we haven't had jobs for them in the past. So, it's more people for somebody to manage with the end goal, it sounds like, just being for them to get CDL licensed when we have openings that we have 15 applicants for. So, I'm just not sure why that's even a thing. I mean, do we have a need to part-time seasonal help or full-time seasonal help when we haven't been able to fill that?

Tom Chalfant said yeah, we've got need just for anybody out there.

Tom Kerns said I think they presented it the two different issues and combined them. There's really two different. Technically, the summer help, we've had summer help for years. We just haven't been able to get it in the last couple of years, just straight laborers. They just haven't had any applications. So, they're trying to increase that, but they're putting the other program in, in addition, in hoping to try to pull them into that program. The summer help and the CDL program is really two different things. They were just combining that in their conversation there. But I do think there's a real need for just having extra laborers to help on the crews when they're spotting whatever, on the road, individual things.

Todd said okay. I mean we didn't really talk about that. I guess next time, we're going to hear this again right, next month. So, I can ask any questions then.

Dave said sure, any time.

Todd said so what's not getting done that needs to be done since we haven't had those workers.

Missy said yeah, Todd, you know, back when people say well you can get a job at McDonalds. Working at McDonalds on your feet all day is a pretty hard job too. I mean, so, I guess for me, I was an outside person, always have been, so, to me, the highway department sounds like much more, I know you're going to have to shovel and stuff, but wherever you work, yeah, I agree with you. I just, we need workers. We 15 of them. If we could get them CDL certified, and I'm going to read that particular thing to see if, I read a little bit about it, and my understanding was that you can hire a new person. It does not have to be seasonal. And you can have a person in your department who gets trained to complete the CDL course work, and they still have to go and do their driving test and all that. So, I guess I'm, to me, if you go after these kids, and I'm all for that, and you think you're going to get them CDL licenses and they're going to quit at the end of summer and go to school or take another job with you know, I'm not sure, I don't know. I just had a lot of questions.

Tom Kerns said the one advantage of the other category, the category they have right now, is part-time, if you go to seasonal, you can go to that 40 hours. Where right now, at the 28 hours, it would be a little complicated because they work 10-hour days. So, really it would be 20 hours in the highway department, so it would be hard to bring them back 2 hours early. So, we need that category. Now whether the pay goes up the extra dollar, it wouldn't necessarily be, but they do need that extra category to hire the summer help.

Missy said and they still have it. They can still say hired seasonal help 20 hours a week, right?

Tom Kerns said they could go 20 hours a week or they could go 28 hours a week, but with a 10-hour day, it would be hard to, if they're out on the road somewhere.

Missy said if they would hire in on this and could work towards their CDL, can they work more than 20 hours?

Tom Chalfant said 28 or 40, yeah, just depending on where they're hired in at.

Missy said they would have to not be called by the seasonal help though, right? They to be classified something else?

Tom Kerns said because of the requirements of benefits. You have to have seasonal help and they can only work so long, otherwise, if they work over that 28 hours, they'd have to give benefits and such.

Todd said so I mean, they could work seasonally, for forty hours a week is what I understood.

Laura Martin said see and I was asking Jessica because I just remembered I sent this to her in my email to I could pull it up, if we had a non-CDL position, right now, I think we have truck driver and part-time equipment operator, which requires a CDL, equipment, which requires a CDL, we have garage mechanic and foreman, seasonal part-time drivers. That requires a CDL. So, I don't see that we have a line for a non-CDL person. And I thought that was the whole reason in doing this was so they could hire a non-CDL because if, and that was my understanding when her and I talked. But I couldn't remember without looking at the salary ordinance, but I didn't think we had a non-CDL seasonal position. In looking at that, we don't. So, I think that was the whole reasoning in.

Tom Kerns said in the summertime when they're doing road repairs, just spot repairs, can have three guys there and require all of them to have CDLs because we don't have part-time help.

Dave said good discussion. Good discussion.

Other Business:

Report from Commissioners – Gary Girton

Gary Girton said I have a few things to relay. One, don't know if some of you've been hearing, but Jake informed us about six weeks ago, or course I know we've been having issues with the boilers at the building. And that he's had Salyer Taylor look at them, and they definitely say that it's an issue. Salyer

Taylor just threw some figures out, a \$100,000 to rebuild, a \$1,000,000.000 to replace. Jake has come across a company in Ft Wayne and they are in the process of looking at the system and bidding it on repair. They are qualified and say they have a, can get access to the materials. So, we're hoping to get that done before winter when the system starts up again. And we don't want them to shut down in the middle of the winter. So, that's Jake's effort right now, is to get that accomplished.

Dave said so was there a recommendation of where to get bring that money to pay or that project?

Gary Girton said no, we just are in the process of, we don't even know how much it's going to cost. That was just a figure they throughout. But, once we get that, once the commissioners see that information, we'll pass it right on to council so that you'll know. So, if could fund that, get that under some type of plan so that we can move forward with it and get it accomplished before winter. Any questions on that? The Purdue Extension Office people, Julie, Zoe and Amy came and presented at the meeting Monday, the plans and programs they are presently are going to have, and then what they are presently doing, and what they have done in the last few weeks, months. Quite encouraging. Of course, I follow that regularly, but I know that they're doing a great deal in the county, in 4-H, and in adult leadership, adult agricultural programs, food service now with Zoe on board. So, they came and gave us an update. Duane Petry was here for a second ambulance, which we have had on order, due to be delivered now in the fall of 25. But, there is one available and the commissioners voted to for our part, to move forward and purchase it at a cost of \$312,427.00. And that's without the wrap.

Tom Kerns said this is the second one that was a demo?

Gary Girton said that's a, well they're new, yes. And it's available on floor. And so, we made the decision to go ahead and purchase it, and we left the other one on order for 25, because we'd have another one, according to Duane's figures, that would be needed at that time.

Tom Kerns said get us back in rotation where we need to be.

Gary Girton said so we made the decision from our prospective, to go ahead and move with this, since it was available and not let it go, and not have to wait until 25 to get our first one.

Todd said how many years do they typically get out of one of those?

Gary Girton said I can't answer that. I don't know.

Tom Chalfant, seven, maybe, six, seven years.

Missy said didn't he say the one he's going to, wanting to trade in a 2004 though? I thought he said 2004. Maybe I misunderstood.

Meeks said they rebuild them right, I mean, they put another box on it.

Gary Girton said they will take a trade in, this company will on this one.

Tom Kerns said are you looking at funding this with ARPA did you say?

Gary Girton said yes. That's our plan. And as I said the wrap then, I think the last one, the one we just purchased was \$7,720 maybe, so we'll add that on. So, if we get a trade in, the trade in was around 8 something, so roughly be a wash.

Todd said to wrap is the, is what goes around the body, it's the, is what I'm thinking of?

Laura Martin said the graphics.

Todd said the graphics.

Gary Girton said all the graphics on the vehicle, yes.

Todd said you'd pay for that then by giving them the old ambulance, is that?

Gary Girton said well theoretically, yes. If everything goes as planned, it'll roughly be a wash. And that's being, well the present one is being done in Fountain City.

Dave said it's right in the center of town.

Gary Girton said yeah, and so I'm assuming that they would most likely be the likely bidder on this second. Then, J&K with the radio communications are still working on those. Most all of the issues, to my knowledge, are still with the fire departments primarily because of their VHF systems. J&K is still working with them in trying to get this all up and going. Art has informed me that from the sheriff's standpoint, from their system, from their people, the system is working great. And that's good to know, since of, had all these issues we've had with the system, in getting it built. But now, it's been in operation about a year. They were here last week, and did turn up the power on the south tower to help with some of the VHF systems in the southern part of the county. And that seems to have helped some, but we're still staying on top as much we can with the issues, short of the fire departments in updating their equipment, and several of them are. Union township is working on theirs. Modoc got a grant and got new pagers. Lynn, I think is getting a grant for new pagers. That seems to be the majority of problems. We're still trying to work that through and get them up and going, because the last thing we want is because of issues not being updated. So, that's where we are there. Camp Slingshot, which used to be called Camp Yale, we have a group of people that's looking at possibly leasing that, and we informed them from the commissioners' standpoint, all three of us agreed we do not want to sell the property at the present time. But it was for lease, so, that's being shown this week if possible, and discuss with them as to their interest and a dollar figure.

Tom Chalfant said did they state what their use would be for?

Gary Girton said it's a camp for church camp kids. They bought land just on 36, east of Lynn. Most of you don't know, but it's just east of the Arba Pike. There used to be a boy scout camp in there years ago. And they bought this 17-acres with the intent of possibly in the future, turning that into a camp. I think they said last year they went, had to go to Ohio to hold their camp and lease a facility over there. So, they're having to bus all the kids over there. So, they're looking at possibly leasing this. They may be doing additional things, events and so on. I think that's pretty much all that we discussed, other than what

you heard today from EDP etc. Any questions?

Tom Chalfant said have you had any discussion about moving community corrections from their building, maybe into the courthouse, because I know there's going to be an issue with that roof at community corrections, and I think it's going to have a lot of repair. So, I didn't know if there's any movement on that?

Gary Girton said well Jake's looking at the roof and trying to come up with figures. And yes, there has been a little discussion, nothing serious, because they're kind of deciding on the cost factor there. But yes, that is at the top of the list anyway. I know Jake is working on that.

Missy said any progress on moving forward Broadband communication do you know, in the county?

Gary Girton said well, New Lisbon, it's now basically, we haven't signed a lease, but we've seen different ones.

Meeks said I think they'll come again at your next meeting.

Gary Girton said we're close to having a lease in the conduit that we put in with Headwaters II.

Meeks said I was in contact with them yesterday.

Gary Girton said and I think all the paperwork's done, basically, except for some of the terms and so on they want. But I think it's going to be worked out and they will lease the conduit.

Missy said so that would be fiber.

Meeks said that's fiber. They want a 50-year lease, so they'll come in front of council if that's what they want to do but, at this point, we don't have any of the terms. There're several terms that are probably not something.

Gary Girton said they've made some suggestions. We discussed them a little bit Monday, but we're still working on that. But nothing else, AT&T built a tower on 227 last year I think.

Dave said anything else?

Tom Chalfant said I guess I just have concerns about building an ambulance station with the county's track record of owning real estate, it's just, it's a money pit. The more real estate we own, the more things we have to fix, and we're very handicapped at fixing compared to private sector. So, I'm just, I'm concerned that we think we want to build a more real estate or own more real estate.

Tom Kerns said one thing I'll throw in to kind of, kind of ties to that, an issue that's coming up that I don't think Gary's heard yet, I've been talking to the coroner. And we're basically, using a, the building at the was St. Vincent's for our morgue. It doesn't meet qualifications right now. Madison county was on the news, I just got dinged, for some things because of it not meeting standards. We're in the same position they are. We don't own that facility. So, it's something's going to be addressed, so whether we're

addressed in one of our own buildings or somewhere else, that, otherwise, you know, we're going to have issues in the future, because the building requires heat, air conditioning, and running water. We don't have any of that in that current building we're using. And so, this is, conversation we've been having just last week. I did talk, I talked to Gary Friend about it, so he's going to bring it up the next issue, but, to whether if we move an ambulance, I've heard a couple different options that we've discussed, and it's obviously, the commissioners' call, but whether a bay at the current EMS facility could be converted since we don't have as many ambulances there anymore, or if we have a building in Farmland, whether it could be built big enough to house it also over there. So, that's coming up along with that same issue that really is going to have to be addressed. I think Darrin was also contacted by the state after that issue over there and a letter was sent out.

Gary Girton said I understand your concern Tom and I don't disagree with you. There's got to be something there because with Culberson leaving, and the only way we had the southwestern part of the county covered is basically, from Randolph County, Reid now has taken over all that facility, and they will come in there. But it's basically, only if we beg them in a sense. They're not too interested in doing that even though they have units based in Hagerstown. But, it seems to be working out well to have it in that area. I think it's serving the people over there. Of course, with fewer paramedics we have, we can't man it 24 hours a day. It has been discussed if we had another paramedic that we could have it over there 24 hours. But until that happens, we can't hardly keep the ones we've got.

Tom Chalfant said and yeah, hopefully, the salary committee can help alleviate because we have to be competitive with their wages to attract people, and you get what you pay for and so, but yeah, the county seemed very inept in a lot of ways. And anything we can let somebody do for us, I think we're better off, and Jessica was just telling me that the highway's not been collecting, I mean, we've been paying sales tax on all of our fuel for we don't know how many years, and we're allowed to collect that, and we, nobody's, well nobody's done that. So, anyway, they're just, if we don't manage things well, and we need to get the kind of people we can to manage things better, because everything costs more.

Dave said okay. Anything else Gary?

Gary Girton said no.

Dave said thanks for coming in.

Minutes of March 7, 2023

Dave said now to get through the other business, Minutes of March 7th, I'd entertain a motion to approve.

Missy made motion to approve. Tom Chalfant seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

APC Attendance

Dave said next item we have is the APC Attendance, I think you guys all got that from Laura. It's a good report just to show who was at that meeting.

Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission appointment

Dave said next item I have is Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission appointment.

Laura Martin said I thought we already did that but somebody asked me to put it on our agenda.

Todd said was that the last meeting?

Laura Martin said yeah it was like maybe the last meeting or something.

Todd said I didn't attend the last one. Is Mike wanting someone else to attend it?

Laura Martin said no, I don't know. I think there's a form that needs filled out, and Mike might have that, and maybe that form just didn't get filled out. I didn't receive that form. So, that's kind of what I'm thinking is we did the appointment, we just didn't get the form done.

Dave said did you get the form Tom? I thought Mike said he was going to send it to you.

Laura Martin said so you might check with Mike if you have his email. Email him and check with him, and see if he has a form he needs you to fill out. I think that is the only reason it was on here.

Todd said okay.

Desk for Commissioner/Council room

Dave said next item we have here is Desk for Commissioner/Council room. We had that discussion at our joint meeting.

Laura Martin said so at your joint meeting, you guys asked for quotes on a podium. I have not gotten that yet, but I had already asked him for a quote on a different type desk here. So, if we move that one over, George Mikesel from Thomas Business Center came up with a handicap assessable desk for that position, because whatever we put there needs to be handicapped assessable, whether it's a podium or a desk. \$4,369.85. This price includes all delivery and installation. We will match the finish as closely as possible to coordinate with existing furniture, delivery in six to seven weeks, after receipt of order. Thomas Business Center, which is who did these desks. They didn't do them in house, but we ordered through them. So, he can get the finish to match is what he's saying. It will just be a little different and for the \$4,369. So that would be the desks now for each one is \$7,823.80. This quote is from March 31st. And this one would be \$4,369.85. So, if you ordered one desk in that.

Dave said a little over \$12,000 instead of like \$16,000.

Laura Martin said yeah, two of the desks, if we go a different route, it would be two other desks would be \$7823.80 each.

Tom Chalfant now were we opposed on changing these around. I mean using that desk and putting the three here?

Mike said the three wouldn't leave enough room.

Tom Chalfant said well it would be a foot longer on each end. If we put the two long tables, or the three tables, it would be a foot longer on each end, then it would be nine foot instead of six foot that direction,

with that table there. Yeah, can we live with a foot less room back there or not?

Meeks said I think you're going to have a fire code violation. If you put a foot longer, you can't get out.

Dave said you're probably right.

Tom Kerns said do we need all the extra space? Can we just leave it, just put this one over there, just buy the one for here, and just have that side, you know, just offset a little bit. It would just be longer on that side so you have the extra.

Mike said they want it symmetrical.

Tom Chalfant said well Gary Friend wanted it symmetrical.

Laura Martin said George is looking into a cost on the handicapped assessible podium but he of course, couldn't get it before this meeting. And my thought on that was we usually have three and four people at a time up here, I don't know that a podium is the answer.

Tom Chalfant said well what is a podium? I think we ought to understand what a podium is before we buy one. A handicapped person would not be able to use that, unless they'd sit at the side of it or something.

Laura Martin said yeah, I just don't see that. In my mind, what I'm seeing, doesn't look like it would work for us, but that's just my thoughts. But he is looking into what the cost of that would be.

Bev said well it sounds like the one that he proposed would be a smaller desk. It would probably be the same tone of color. It would probably be, to me, it would be adequate, because most people, most of the time there's one person. On several occasions, there's more than one. But so, you know, you'd have a space that could easily seat two people. I think it's something to think about anyway. It might work that way versus a standup podium.

Dave said do you have anything Tom to add to this.

Tom Kerns said I don't right now. I have talked to a gentleman that is a wood worker that first he said no, there's no way he had time. I said well we wouldn't be in any hurry. And then he showed interest, and he's made a lot of the podiums and desks and supports a lot of the funeral homes in the area, does really nice woodworking. And so, he showed some interest when I told him that it wouldn't matter if it was here two months or six months, or whatever because we've been talking about this for two years. So, I could see if he's interested in building one. But I would be in favor of moving that over there and just buying a new table there for \$4,000 and go on down the road and be done with it, even though it wouldn't be symmetrical.

Tom Chalfant said well I mean, it would work because of the doorway there, I mean that's going to be pushing against, yeah.

Tom Kerns said it would be nice to have the extra space over there so the sheriff could be back up here

like it always was in the past. And also, when we have joint meetings, to have space up here. We used to have, what was it, six across the front there. There were two on the side and two on that side. So, there was six across there is how we did it before, which is pretty tight. We could do that for joint meetings and with that, make it work.

Dave said so how would you position the people? I mean, two at the desk over there?

Tom Chalfant said you could put two more right there, yeah.

Tom Kerns said and one more up here.

Tom Chalfant said you could put five people here.

Dave said I'm like Gary, I like symmetrical.

Tom Kerns said I'm not willing to spend an extra \$12,000 for it.

Tom Chalfant said at what cost, yeah. That's, how much, how important are appearances, yeah.

Dave said I think we need to get the white tables back. Okay. So, what's our next step on this because I know we've pushed it around for I'd have to say almost two years.

Mike said I think it needs done or forget it.

Tom Chalfant said so is it our place to buy a desk or the commissioners?

Laura Martin said well the commissioners are kind of leaving it in your court because they have plenty of room themselves. But you guys and when we do budget hearings.

Tom Chalfant said they're not willing to let us do what we want if it doesn't agree with their.

Meeks said well if Tom votes to put one desk there and if Gary Friend doesn't like it you can either vote to not, or you can vote to buy another one with Commissioner's funds.

Tom Chalfant said commissioners' funds, yeah.

Dave said they've got all sorts of money.

Tom Kerns said I would like to see what the \$4,000.00 desks looks like for here or a general idea of the size and shape. Do we have that?

Laura Martin said 72 by 30 by 32 high.

Missy said which company Laura?

Laura Martin said this is through Thomas, pass that around, this is through Thomas Business Center.

George Mikesell is the sales rep for them.

Tom Chalfant said that's the same dimensions of that one, right?

Dave said that's six foot.

Tom Kerns said I would make a motion we order that to put there and move that one over there, and be done with it.

Laura Martin said so understanding it's not going to look exactly like these, but he's going to match it as close as he can.

Tom Kerns said I understand that it wouldn't match exactly, then we'd be done talking about furniture but I think that would give us plenty of seating. We could arrange it when we have the joint sessions. Moving this desk over to extend down from you guys. It's the same size. It's just won't match perfect, but it's not going to be against these, it's going to be facing, it, it just will be similar.

Dave said I've got a motion on the floor.

Mike seconded the motion.

Tom Kerns said that's a little over \$4,000 instead of 15, \$16,000.

Dave said I've got a motion and a second to buy a new desk for the conference room here.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said alright. We made a decision. Where do we want to pay for it from? Sheriff, got anything for us?

Art Moystner said I do have, just a couple things that I would like to put on your radar that I'd like to give you an update, which I'm pretty excited about. The couple of things I would like to put on your radar is I talked to the commissioners Monday about updating, upgrading, updating our weapons that the officers carry. It's been, I think the last time we bought pistols was under the Harris administration. So, that's been at least 12 years ago, if not more. I know the guys take good care of their weapons and everything like that, and I've done some research on how long they last. I know a lot of other departments, I've contacted some of those, they trade out anywhere from four to ten. And I think we're in a position where we need to do that. Don't know whether that's something where you would want to consider ARPA funds? I don't know how quickly we have to have those spent. I'm not even sure where we're at with those. I haven't looked. But before I got into having the guys do a lot of research into what we want to get, I wanted to come and make sure that we could do that. I would share with you figures if we don't trade, and we will trade ours, but the figures if we don't trade, the pistols, you're looking at 15 to 20,000 to outfit everyone, that's pistols, that's getting the mag carriers, holsters, everything that we need to go with it. You're looking at 15 to 20,000. Rifles, you're looking at 20 to 25,000. I would share with you in the past when we've traded, we get a little over 50% value from our pistols on a trade in, on what the other pistol is. So, from what the guys that are looking at this are telling me, they think that we would be

under \$35,000 for both the rifles and the pistols. I would tell you, I would guarantee we'll be under \$45,000 because certain things just change. So, that's what we're looking at for that. I just want to put that on your radar and make sure that that's something you guys want me to move forward with, with research, that if I have them put the effort into that and the time into that, that's something we're going to move forward with.

Dave said personally, I think it's a good idea. We haven't bought any for a long time.

Art Moystner said we have not. And there's some things that if anybody wants to talk to us, some of the things we're looking at that there's some new technology out there with hand guns, with regard to red dot and some of that that shows a better proficiency, better acquiring of a target if needed, you know, better shot placement, things of that nature. So, I think it makes, it makes the officer better.

Dave said so what guns do you carry currently?

Art Moystner said right now we carry Glock. I know some of the guys and I have one sitting back here, that carries something different that he had purchased on his own to carry. We've approved that, and the proper caliber, and he's qualified with it. But just because of what's there, they like the design different. I think one of the things, I don't know if you guys know Jordan Alfrey or not. Jordan just recently went to the academy and took his prequal and passed and is going to become one of our firearms instructors as soon as we can get him to class at the academy. So, this is Jordan Alfrey one of the three that we're looking at.

Jordan said looking at Glock again, typically, it's, that's probably the easiest and probably cheapest to trade in too. Then we've got Six Hour and also Smith and Wesson. Those are probably going to be the ones that are going to be the most comparable as far as being able to replace them, similar to the same cost of what we would for Glocks.

Dave said are they 40-calibre or are they?

Jordan said they would likely be 40-calibre, due to, we so many rounds of 40-calibre already that we couldn't trade those out for duty rounds and make up what we would lose without losing a chunk of ammo and money from that so.

Art said a few years ago, we had some funds at the end of the year that we were able to purchase some ammunition for the department that we keep in our armory. So, we kind of set that up if we ever had a short fall and weren't able to get what we need or if there was a shortage in the market. So, we try to keep that on hand and replenish, and we just use what would be older, it's not old ammunition, but as we replenish, we use what we bought previously. And then we would look at rifles, and we have some different reps that are coming in, sales reps that will give us some demos on some of that, and look at some of that stuff to move forward to make sure we're getting good quality equipment for the guys and being fiscal with the county, at the same time.

Todd said I can't remember what was decided on those scopes. Was that the last meeting or meeting before?

Art Moystner said it was last meeting, due to the way all the advertising has to take place to get it in front of you guys, we didn't have time to advertise to get it in front of you for this meeting. But your next meeting, there will be an additional appropriation that we're going to take care of the scopes out of.

Todd said those would obviously, work with.

Art Moystner said absolutely, with the rifles that we would replace with. And I'm wanting to look at a couple different rifles because they have some new technology out there for those also, so that we could move forward with something that hopefully, will last us another ten years.

Todd said so it doesn't make sense to if we do the swap out, to put that on hold?

Art Moystner said no, because we can outfit the current rifles with those currently, and put those in play immediately, which is important. And this might take us a couple two or three months to move forward and get a shipment in and all of that. So, I will keep you guys in the loop of that. But I want them to have that equipment. We can use it on the others and we'll just swap it over.

Dave said to answer the ARPA monies, the amount has to be dedicated by December 31st, 2024. And spent by December 31st, 2026.

Art Moystner said okay.

Laura Martin said and that's totally at the commissioners' discretion.

Art Moystner said correct. And we had spoken to the commissioners, and the commissioners kind of gave me the guidance of regardless whether it comes from ARPA or other funding, they agreed that we need to set up to move forward in doing that for the guys.

Dave said I agree.

Art Moystner said so, I will have Jordan and a couple of the other guys start that project.

Tom Kerns said my thought on that, and it's kind of hard to do now is that we should have had them staggered so that we're not, every time, we're not buying them all at the same time. We're buying pistols one years and a couple of years later

Art Moystner said and I don't think you would have to because I would tell you that our rifles are actually older than our pistols, because I think we had started getting the rifles in mid Harris administration. And started implementing some of those at that time, maybe earlier on.

Tom Chalfant said now are talking Jay or Bud?

Art Moystner said I talked to Jay. But we started looking at some of this in the 90s. I don't remember specifically what year, Columbine had happened. But we started buying here and there to get everybody spun up to where they needed to be. Back shortly after Columbine had occurred because we wanted to be able to respond to those appropriately. And we got everybody outfitted. So, I don't think it's one of those

that, we're getting hit now and I think your next one will be with pistols and then the next one would be with rifles, and not necessarily hit at that point.

Tom Kerns said with ARPA money it makes little difference now we have the money to do it.

Art Moystner said it does. I don't disagree.

Tom Kerns said transitionally, with budgets and everything else, it always come from the same year.

Art Moystner said correct. And I think this is a good time to do the weapons because here in a year or two, and I'd have to look at age, is I'll be hitting you guys up again for the body armor, and replacing those because those have a five-year life.

Tom Chalfant said I assume there's no trade in on that.

Art Moystner said there is no trade in on that. We tried. They turned us down. But that's with that, so I assume by the conversation, you guys would like to have them move forward with that then.

Dave said yeah, I would encourage to move it forward.

Art Moystner said we will start doing that. The other thing that I wanted to put on your agenda and Mr. Lenkendofer and I had spoken, recently were some things that transpired this year between the AIC and the sheriffs at a state level. And in hearing some of the conversations, and with Dave and I talking, we're blessed, and I want to thank you guys because I think the council, the commissioners, the sheriffs' office, the other elected officials in this county get along wonderfully. I hear some horror stories out there from other sheriffs and Mr. Lenkendofer shared with me he hears some horror stories from individuals in county government of how they don't get along. I know one of the big pushes right now is with the commissary fund and what not, and one of the things I would like to talk and walk through, not something I'm wanting to do today, but in talking to you guys, I would like to make a list of things that I normally, or the sheriff would normally come to you to ask to buy out of commissary, so that we could get something put together whether it be a resolution or whatever it would be that you guys kind of blanketly save from year to year, yes sheriff, we give you the authority we agree we need to buy this out of commissary. And I'm saying yes, I agree we need to buy this out of commissary so we can move forward with those, and work with that account a little better and help offset some stuff, because normally, it's, by Statute right now, I turn in a report, you guys accept the report, and we're done with that. If there's something I want, I come to you. And I know we buy vehicle, a vehicle out of that, some other things, and I just, moving forward, I want to talk to Dave more so that we can do that, and have that kind of set so that it's, remove that contention from anything in the future because I think that's one of the big things the other counties feud over is that commissary fund. So, I want to make sure we're not doing that. The other thing I wanted to tell you that I'm excited about is they are currently installing a new inmate phone system, and commissary system this week over at the sheriff's office. With that, we are going to get tablets. It's a piece I've been looking for since I because sheriff, to get tablets in that'll offer some education for the inmates that they can get a GED or college type courses through this tablet. So, I would invite any of you in two or three weeks if you want to stop by the sheriff's office and see some of this new technology. I would love to have you come in and see that. So, it should be in play, I think we will have the system up by this Friday, and the tablets will be in by next Friday. So, anytime after that if you'd like to come in.

But, we're pretty excited about it.

Todd said what's the, is there kind of an average length of stay? Do you guys track that?

Art Moystner said we do track how long they're in. I don't know that there's an average. I know most county jails are not supposed to be with us over a year. But you get into situations where you're holding them pre-sentence, and the court has delays. So, depending on how quickly they can get them in and get them sentenced, whether or not they go to DOC. I know one of the most recent ones that everybody would probably remember would be Mr. Cook. And we had Mr. Cook my entire first term and I think that case was resolved last year. So, he is now at DOC, but we held him for almost, well we probably held him for four years. I've had some others that have plead to time that we've had them for a couple of years. But most generally, it's less than a year.

Tom Chalfant said is there any statistics to rand Randolph County, our court system, as far as expediency of hearings and so forth? Are we better than average as far as holding prisoners less to get justice?

Art Moystner said I don't have that statistic. That's something you would probably have to get from the office of Court technology maybe, I think that's the correct office.

Meeks said I think the Supreme court probably has that.

Art Moystner said and probably the Indiana Clerk but I do not have those statistics.

Meeks said they keep that stuff.

Tom Chalfant said is that available to the public?

Meeks said I have no idea about that part.

Tom Chalfant said or the county government?

Meeks said I know they, talk to the judges, they'll tell you.

Tom Chalfant said well they might not want to release that.

Art Moystner said I do not have that information. Does anyone have any questions for me today?

Missy said I don't have a question, but I have a comment, not that I've been in there visiting anybody, but I stopped in. I like what you've done on the inside of there to protect your employees who should not have harassing people coming in. At least, I think it gives them a little protection not to be seen all the time. If you can't see somebody. I think that looks really professional, and I really appreciate it just for the women who are working in there, or anybody who is working in there.

Art Moystner said sure. Thank you.

Dave said anything else for the sheriff today?

Art Moystner said thank you.

Laura Martin said can I go back to the desk?

Dave said yes.

Laura Martin said so if we want to order this, I will need to put in for another additional appropriation. I will need to know where you want to fund it from.

Dave said that's what I was asking.

Laura Martin said well you guys kind of just passed over that.

Tom Chalfant said where can we take it from? What are our choices?

Tom Kerns said general is fine.

Laura Martin said do an additional in general?

Tom Kerns said it's strong, so just get it from the general. Makes it as easy.

Dave said I want to spend some of the commissioners' money.

Tom Kerns said they might not approve our decision.

Laura Martin said well, and I think I can wait until after the next commissioners' meeting Sherrie to do the additional on this for this desk?

Sherrie said it'll have to be done next Thursday. I'll have to have it to the paper next week.

Laura Martin said so we can't wait until after the commissioners' meeting. Okay, I'll send them an email, because if they want symmetrical, then they're going to have to fund the difference for whatever.

Meeks said well just don't order it before the next meeting.

Laura Martin said well I understand but I need to get the additional. So, we'll go ahead and do it out of general.

Missy said Laura can you ask them to send you a picture, send a photograph of what they're talking about?

Laura Martin said okay, if they have one, yeah. I mean, it's built, it's going to be built. So, I don't know.

Missy said they should probably have one though.

Laura Martin said I know he sent me the measurements and stuff, but.

Todd said isn't that, isn't that the second page, that picture?

Laura Martin said that was the four they quoted. I don't know. It may be. There was an extra I guess, there, that was not exact. I'll see what I can get.

Tom Chalfant said mix/match furniture is all in style now.

Missy said I'm just curious, just we can at least say whoa, whoa that isn't what we're thinking about, if it looks that much different. I don't know if it's still over there, but the old work horse you know, when you pull back in there Dave. That building, they used to have tons, a couple years ago, they had tons of old furniture in there. I mean, I bet they had a hundred pieces of furniture in there.

Dave said yeah, they've cleaned out a lot of.

Missy said I wondered if they had.

Dave said this new group in there, they're pretty aggressive. They want things just exactly right.

News Gazette – new ownership

Dave said would you like to introduce yourself?

Ray Cooney said sure, I would like to introduce myself. So, my name is Ray Cooney. I am the editor and publisher of Graphic Printing Company, which as of Monday, bought the News Gazette. So, that's why I'm here. I'm going to have questions afterwards, because I don't know much of anything about you know, how, what you guys are doing down here. I have some questions, but, I'm excited about the opportunity. You know, we're located in Portland, which I think is a good thing. I've been down here every day this week, and will continue to be every day this week, and then we'll see where it goes from there. But, I'm excited about the opportunity to expand into the Randolph County Community.

Dave said we're excited here for Randolph County about the merger.

Ray Cooney said I'm glad you are.

Dave said yeah, I mean, very excited.

Laura Martin said how do you spell your last name?

Ray Cooney said Cooney, c-o-o-n-e-y.

Laura Martin said thank you.

Ray Cooney said I've been with them for 22 years in sports and I've covered every government meeting in Jay County at some point or another.

Dave said welcome aboard. Will you be attending our commissioner, council meetings?

Ray Cooney said probably. One of the things I'll be doing in the coming weeks is just figuring out who is doing what, and how we can best deploy people. I think probably yes for commissioners and council because the timing works. The city councils of Union City and Winchester and Hartford City, which we also acquired are different because everybody likes to meet on Monday. We'll have to figure out how that all works out.

Dave said it's good to have you here. It's been what, five years since we've had a reporter in our meetings.

Ray Cooney said we hope to change that.

Dave said good.

Ray Cooney said keep that change in effect.

Additional Appropriations:

EDIT

City of Winchester	\$10,000.00
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Dave said we're down to additional appropriations. First one we have is City of Winchester for \$10,000 from the EDIT funds. I believe that's for the splash pad, yes, there it is. I'd entertain a motion.

Bev made motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

ARPA

Graphics on Ambulance	\$7,752.00
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Dave said okay the next one I have is from the ARPA fund, the graphics for the new ambulance, \$7752. It's what Gary talked about earlier. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve that.

Todd made motion to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Todd said one thing that I notice a lot because I, my job is, are these expenditures for firewalls and switches and audio/video upgrade, I always feel like there's large dollar amounts there, and nobody really explains.

Laura Martin said so the additional appropriations is a follow up to things you've already agreed to. So, the discussion would have been when you guys agreed to do it. And then we have to follow a paperwork trail in my office, and the additional are following whatever, just like I asked where do you want to pay for that desk from? So, we've discussed this and now you want to pay for that from general. So, now we have to do additional appropriations. We have to advertise it in the paper, then those have to be.

Todd said so I've seen this, is that what you're saying?

Laura Martin said you should have yes. And I'm just trying to explain the process. So, we don't normally do an additional until you guys have already approved this expense.

Todd said okay.

Laura Martin said and then this is just the paperwork following through to get done what State Board requires us to do. Does that make sense?

Todd said yeah.

Dave said any questions?

GENERAL

Audio/Video upgrade	\$23,779.11
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Dave said the last additional appropriation I have here is for 23,779.11 for a computer video equipment from General fund. And this is for the upgrades to this. So, we paid for this, council?

Laura Martin said yes.

Dave said okay. I'd entertain a motion to approve.

Missy said my question on that one is, so is the meeting going to be broadcasted? Is there somewhere people can access that?

Laura Martin said at this point, no. So, there is legislation out there to require us to do that, but it failed according to what Dave's told me.

Dave said it's pushed out until I think, 2025 now.

Laura Martin said so at some point, probably. But at this point, no.

Missy said okay.

Dave said I guess it can be brought up next year, legislation.

Laura Martin said right.

Dave said I'd entertain a motion.

Missy made motion to approve. Bev seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said okay, anything else?

Laura Martin – Audio/video upgrade

Laura Martin said two things. First of all, on that audio and video upgrade, that is to take place

on June 7th and 8th. So, it'll be after our June meetings that they'll come in and they'll do the upgrade, and then what you want to do at that point. But, the new equipment is in my office. It got delivered this week. So, it's just a matter of them coming in to do it. So, there's two pages that the signature.

Todd Holaday – Seasonal CDL

Todd said on that seasonal CDL thing, that's probably meant for winter season isn't it?

Laura Martin said well used to, it was CDL or seasonal snow plow drivers.

Todd said yeah, that's what I'm.

Laura Martin said yeah.

Todd said and this other seasonal is probably more summer isn't it?

Laura Martin said now they've taken it away. They just put seasonal drivers on there. So, they've changed the name of that. So, but it still requires a CDL.

Todd said that's why it would make more sense that it requires a CDL because you want somebody to plow snow.

Laura Martin said which we still have a line for that. But they have to have a CDL. I think the whole, this whole issue was.

Tom Kerns said they used to hire college kids during the summertime. They haven't for quite a few years to do some of

Dave said used to have a lot of farm kids.

Laura Martin said just so you know, I'm not advocating for or against. I'm just trying to give you information.

David Lenkensdofer – AIC District meeting

Dave said I just have one thing. May 15th, is the AIC district meeting down at Hagerstown at Willie and Reds. It ought to be a good evening. So, I'd encourage anybody to attend.

Tom Chalfant said that's close to Shelbyville isn't it?

Dave said yeah.

Todd said the 15th is a Monday?

Bev said yep.

Meeks said I just have one thing. Just to let everybody know, the commissioners will probably

be signing those documents on the 15th. So, if anybody wants to come or have any questions about the decommissioning agreement, the Economic Development agreement, or the road use agreement, please let me know. You guys have my email. And when they get finalized, I'll send them out to everybody.

Dave said okay. Anything else to come before the county council meeting today?

Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)

Dave said anybody in the public want to speak?

Adjournment

Dave said I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Tom Chalfant made motion to adjourn. Bev seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and accepted this 5 day of July, 2023.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COUNCIL

David Benkenhofer

Tom Chalfant

Bev

Michael A. Shea

John H. H.

Theresa

ATTESTED:

Laura J Martin
Laura J Martin, Auditor