

Randolph County Commissioners

October 6, 2025

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Gary Friend, Tom Kerns and Missy Williams. Also present was Randolph County Chief Deputy Auditor Nikola Clevenger, Sheriff Art Moystner.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council's update

Gary said good morning everybody. We'll open up today's commissioners meeting and we'll start off with council update. We have several members of the council here today. Who would like to bring the update?

Larry Preston said Larry Preston for Randolph County Council. Like Bev said, obviously, we met before your second meeting, so we don't have much. I know on the agenda for tomorrow, we'll start the ball rolling for the public hearings for the bonds. And coming up, if anybody is interested, the next courthouse security meeting will be October 15th at noon. And that's all I have.

Gary said okay. Did Meeks explain to the council the time line on the bottom is pretty tight right now?

Larry Preston said yes. They sent us an email with all the steps.

Gary said okay, great. Providing there's no opposition, from our, we get it passed, clear it through tomorrow, would be helpful because we've got, we've got some pretty significant increases for the amount of time that it's taken already. I'd kind of like to get this thing locked in.

Larry Preston said yeah, we seen that too. And I'm sure everybody got their email, and we should tackle it tomorrow.

Gary said thank you. Tom, you need anything?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said nope. Thanks Larry.

George Caster – Contract approval

Gary said George Caster.

George Caster said no, yeah, there's nothing like me. I'm George Caster, Randolph County Assessor. My business here today is to get a contract approved. Went through a bidding process and I got 4 bids. They were about \$30,000.00 apart from low to high. So, as I go through each bid, we analyzed the RFP that was submitted to each one of them. One company couldn't even provide any of the documents that was in the RFP so they were automatically denied. And then the other two started doing a lot of, they were lower, but then they wanted to charge \$700.00 a day, \$500.00 a day, for things that we currently get as part of the price. So, they went from down here to up here. So, what started out to be a 499,300-dollar top end of the bid, after the review of the 2 that were acceptable, they jumped to 600 and over 500,000. The 499 has met every qualification that we'd ask them to. They've been with us for, I'm going to say right now, close to 20 years. They do a very good job. And they meet all the requirements. They actually do physical inspections. Most of these, one of these companies wanted us to download data on to a lap top or to a pad so they could do it, then give us back the pad. And then have us do the data entry. One wanted us to furnish them all their space, all their equipment. The current contractor does not. So, I accepted that contract as being the best for the county, as well as the cheapest.

Gary said least expensive.

George Caster said yes, least expensive. But for your money, you're getting a good product.

Gary said yeah. Are you currently budgeted into next year for this contract?

George Caster said for the first payment. And then after that, the next budget will then work that out. So, because, that's the problem. When we have the budgets, these contracts aren't even thought of yet. And so, then we do the contract, I then have to say okay, what's going to be the next years' worth of payments. And I'm within a hundred dollars of what it comes out to be. So, we're fine. The contractor's, he's easy about it, carries it over, no problem.

Gary said now this is nothing new for us.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said we've had these type of contracts, since I've been around, doing them.

George Caster said right. But I just wanted to, this is my first one, so, I'm just giving you.

Gary said this is a 3-year contract?

George Caster said 4-year contract.

Gary said 4 year. Are we allowed to go into 4-year contracts?

George Caster said well we've been doing them for, since before I started working here.

Gary said okay. My memory is generally it only goes 3-year contract.

George Caster said this is for the reassessment. The reassessment is a 4-year plan by the state. So, that's what it's for.

Gary said okay. Tom, anything?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said nope.

Gary said what is the yearly fee?

George said well, if you break it down, I think it, I didn't break that down. 499,300 divided by 4 so, I'm looking at probably 150 at the most a year.

Gary said are you drawing that out of the levy? Is there a levy for that?

George Caster said I have no levies. We put it in the reassessment fund. So that gets, that's what you're talking about.

Gary said that's the levy.

George Caster said yeah.

Gary said alright. Good enough. Somebody like to make a motion to approve this contract?

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

Gary said okay. Anything else for us, George?

George Caster said no, unless you've got stuff you want me to do.

Gary said no.

George Caster said okay. I will tell you, we are finalizing the, what appeals we've had this year. This year was 500% over what we normally have.

Gary said in appeals?

George Caster said in appeals. We had 250. Normally, we get 50. And it was because of the state changing their cost tables from 2011 material costs to 2024 costs. That on average, jumped everything 28% minimum on residential.

Gary said how do you get through a load like that? That's a lot for the PTABOA board to deal with.

George Caster said well considering I handle 99% of them myself.

Gary said oh, okay.

George Caster said but, when there's not an agreement, that's the next step.

Gary said yeah.

George Caster said okay, we've got only 3 days, we're going to go through them. And the close of it will be towards the November of next week, that week of November the 11th, during that, that's the week we're going to do it, 12, 13, 14. And then we'll be done with it. But, we are seeing quite a bit of people don't like their taxes going up, but I just simply tell them, well, guess what, nobody does, but I didn't raise your taxes. And you don't know your taxes are going to be, especially with SB1 and 1427, because the state doesn't even know what they're going to do yet. So, I just hope it doesn't hurt us like I initially projected it would. I hope they've figured this out and get it back to what needs to be.

Gary said right. Okay.

George Caster said so, I'm still watching it for you.

Gary said well thank you. Anything, Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said no.

Gary said thank you.

Jake Donham – Repair or replacing hand rail at RCFFO building and Transfer Cum Cap

Gary said Jake.

Jake Donham said let's see, what have we got on here. I am requesting a transfer of some funds in the Cum Cap to the courthouse line item. We'd lost a compressor on one of the first floor units and I don't have enough to cover the.

Gary said transfer from Commissioners Cum Cap?

Jake Donham said yeah.

Gary said okay.

Jake Donham said I think it was, I think it was 10,000. So, I can go to council.

Gary said well first let's take care of that. Somebody like to make a motion for the transfer?

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

Jake Donham said and then the next item I had on there. The next thing I had is the handrail at the old hospital. It's old steel. It's been in 30 plus years, has starting to rot off from the cement.

Gary said which ones are we talking about? All the way around the?

Jake Donham said all the way around the facility. All the handrail.

Gary said okay.

Jake Donham said it's the salt and winter conditions, it's just really wreaked havoc on it. So, I had Customized Mechanical come look at it. He's explained to me to save what we got, that he's going to take all the handrail out, core driller thing, put in a stainless sleeve, then put the new railing back in, tack it in, weld it in. And we still have steel, but we're not sure how much rot is on the inside of that pipe. And then of course, it's a maintenance issue of painting it and he was kind of jokingly, said well you can just change it all over to stainless steel. And he said actually, that might be your best option, because he's going to have to core drill everything anyways and put in a stainless sleeve to drop in this new handrail. He said so, really, the extra cost will be the stainless pipe and us to build it, but then you've got a lifetime rail that's not going to rot off like what this steel is going to do again eventually. So, that's the price difference. One of them is just to repair what we've got and get by for who knows how long. And the other is to just replace everything with stainless steel.

Tom said if he replaces it all with stainless steel, is he still going to put sleeves in so that the rail, if something gets damaged, it could be pulled out?

Jake Donham said yeah. It was my understanding that he core drills everything and puts in sleeves and then drops his new rail in.

Tom said even the new stainless steel would drop in?

Jake Donham said that was my understanding, yeah.

Gary said why was there an exclusion of overtime there? Why can't that be a bid that stands?

Jake Donham said it's just a quote. I don't know. I didn't see the.

Gary said but he says excludes any painting and overtime.

Jake Donham said I mean, I had requested is, it's no overtime job. I mean, it's going, I wouldn't.

Gary said it doesn't mean there could be a rider come down the road says that we had over time on it, we're going to have more money?

Jake Donham said I mean, if we okay this, just exclude over, any overtime money, I guess. I don't know.

Gary said anybody else see it on there?

Tom said I did. It was on both bids.

Missy said I did.

Jake Donham said yeah.

Gary said I haven't got but I remember reading it. So, what were the 2 quotes?

Jake Donham said just to repair what we've got was \$18,980.00. And then to replace everything with stainless steel was 44,859.

Gary said seems like a lot, but I don't know. I've never experienced this particular.

Jake Donham said there's a lot of railing around that building, a lot of long railing. This is actually kind of initiated, Journey Home had their annual, or Federal inspection, and there were several of them they were concerned about. They weren't rotted all the way off yet. A couple were, but then some of them were pretty flakey-looking. So, they got wrote up on their list, and so, I'm, we better get rolling on this.

Gary said now we get sued. I mean, if somebody....

Jake Donham said right yeah. And that's across the board, around the whole building, because the more we looked at it, I'm like, there's nowhere to stop.

Gary said well I believe you did your due diligence on it. It's just an expense of owning the buildings that we have to take care of.

Jake Donham said right.

Gary said okay. Tom, anything?

Tom said that rail doesn't have to be yellow by any code does it? So, if we put stainless steel, we can look at.

Jake Donham said it's red now.

Tom said red now?

Jake Donham said yeah. So, I don't think there's any color specific.

Tom said I would say while we're doing it, we do it, we replace the railing.

Missy said are you happy with it? Is this what you think is the best idea?

Jake Donham said I, yeah, because my concern would be that the railing we have, if we replace it, we're not sure how rotted on the inside of that pipe is.

Missy said yeah. If you're going to go to all that work, why do you want to put that back on?

Jake Donham said yeah, and that's what, yeah, I'd ask him on it, well you're going to have to do the core drill and the sleeves regardless, either way, he's like yeah. So, which he said, I mean, stainless, he said stainless is usually 2 or 3 times more than steel obviously, but it's a lifetime material. And it is harder to work with versus steel. But he said for majority of it, they'll, I think they'll, I don't know if they build in place or if they'll, they'll about have to build in place, as big as some of those are.

Gary said the only thing that I want to be pretty firm on is this, it's not an open-end contract, overtime or painting, we approve \$44,859 for turn key.

Jake Donham said absolutely.

Gary said you guys agree?

Missy said yep.

Tom said yeah.

Gary said alright. We have a Cum Cap in the commissioners' line. Danita, you're here. That line's plenty

Danita said yes.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve this out of Commissioners Cum Cap?

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

Gary said do you have the square footage for the Journey Home through your measurements?

Jake Donham said yeah, I went back and found it. It was 5432. And then I, Meeks had sent that, the original contract prior to, we have as 4958, is what we had on the original contract.

Gary said well it's my opinion that we charge everybody by our measurements and if it was wrong the first time, it could be right this time. What do you think, Tom? I don't think we round anybody over there, do we? You measure it, that's what we charge.

Jake Donham said yeah, from outside to outside in both directions is how we normally do it.

Gary said any thoughts, Tom?

Tom said not really.

Gary said Missy? Any thoughts on that, Missy?

Missy said yeah, I think if that's, once you measure it, it's, I think it's what we stay with. I mean, I guess down the road somebody could negotiate that but, right now, that's what we said we'd do.

Gary said okay. We'll they'll be coming up later on, I expect. Is that in other business, the Journey Home? Is the Journey Home here?

Justin Lester said yeah, I'm here.

Gary said oh, okay. Do you mind coming up right now while we're doing this?

Justin Lester said yeah, that's fine.

Gary said you already know about the mic, don't you? We have one mic working, the one that's got the green light.

Justin Lester said Justin Lester, business director of the Journey Home. I looked back at both the contracts that we had had and I'd sent it to Meeks, says the 4900. So, that, I just brought that to his attention. If you guys want to change it, I mean, that's at your discretion, but.

Gary said well we just want to be accurate because we use accurate numbers for every single tenant out there. We want to make sure this one is what it is. That's all I've got, and I believe that we've settled on \$7.00 for next year, in January

Justin Lester said okay. Uh huh.

Gary said Tom, anything to add?

Tom said I don't.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said would somebody like to make a motion to set the Journey Home lease for the next 2 years, or for next year, actually, it's a 2-year lease, one at 7 and it goes up to 10, correct?

Justin Lester said yep.

Gary said with using the numbers 5432 square feet.

Justin Lester said yes.

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

Gary said okay. Have anything else for the Journey Home while you're there?

Justin Lester said we do have some interest in a location that is outside Randolph County, so, I don't know how fast that's going to move, just in all transparency, it could be a couple of months, it could be up to 8 months. But there is interest. We are in talks with another location at this time, but, it looks promising, so, we'll go from there.

Gary said alright. Thank you.

Justin Lester said okay, thank you.

Gary said thank you, Jake. Ed.

Jake Donham said was somebody going to sign one of those quotes for me to send back?

Gary said they're on the computer, are they printed?

Jake Donham said I've got one printed, yeah.

Gary said that would be helpful. Is that all 3 signatures or just 1?

Jake Donham said just 1.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion for the president to sign for the commissioners?

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

Gary said anything else?

Jake Donham said I don't think so.

Ed Thornburg – Utility agreement

Gary said morning Ed.

Ed Thornburg said morning.

Gary said what have you got, Ed? You've got a county utility agreement, work order 25-30.

Ed Thornburg said yep, 893 West 500 North, put in a 2 by 45 wooded poles, opening 16 by 16 by 8 and maps attached. It's basically, maintenance work.

Gary said do you recommend this work?

Ed Thornburg said yes.

Gary said we have a recommendation from the surveyor. Somebody like to make a motion to approve?

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

Gary said what else, Ed?

Ed Thornburg said that's it.

Tom said think they're about done on 700?

Ed Thornburg said well, they're finally off the road. Yeah, they went ahead and got it buried off the edge of the pavement, just like you guys directed them. They made a 45-degree angle across the road, which was what was in their plans originally. They're working their way up towards crossing my county ditch in a few days. That'll be exciting. It's all good. They're making good headway and overall, I mean, the job site looks good when they're done at the end of the day. They're doing good work.

Gary said I'm glad it's working out for them and for the county too.

Ed Thornburg said yeah.

Gary said anybody, anything for Ed?

Missy said no.

Gary said thank you.

Joe Copeland – SJCA Proposal, Task order #9 & Additional Dollars needed for bridges

Gary said Joe Copeland.

Joe Copeland said morning. Joe Copeland, highway engineer.

Jay Long said Jay Long, Randolph County Highway.

Joe Copeland said let me start with the 5 bridge designs.

Gary said good, task order 9?

Joe Copeland said that was proposed. Yeah, task order number 9. I said something to the council about it and they were in favor. They thought it was a good idea. So, they're aware of it.

Gary said yeah, we spoke about it at the last commissioner meeting too. Okay. So, what do you need from us on it?

Joe Copeland said need for you to approve task order 9.

Gary said okay. Do you have a funding source for task order 9?

Joe Copeland said yeah, we're going to take some of it I think, out of landfill host and the other probably, Cum Bridge.

Gary said okay.

Joe Copeland said yeah, there's over a million in landfill host.

Gary said okay. On task order 9, Tom, any comment on it?

Tom said nope.

Gary said Missy, any comment on it?

Missy said nope.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to approve task order 9 for SJCA?

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

Gary said next.

Joe Copeland said next item. Community Crossing matching grant funds. Applications are now open here in the month of October. I had already figured on using some of that money application for bridge 29, 200 West around 700 North. Estimate on that bridge is \$851,974.12. And that's in the letter you have, do you have the letter? Okay. And the, so we're ready to go with that one, and then while I was working on it, that leaves some money left because the maximum is 1 million dollars. And now, instead of paying 75%, they will pay 80% if we're, but the funds are limited. So, we're down to 50 million for smaller communities. So, Jay says, how about we resurface 200 North between 200 West and 400 West. I said okay, so, I put together the estimate and the estimate was \$493,847.70. And it's an estimate so, I expect both of these probably will come in a little lower, these bids. So, that amount of \$345,821.00 for the county's local share will probably, I'm figuring, will go down a little bit, okay. So, but, we're maxed out at the million, so, we get a million and we're going to invest 345,000. So, that's not too bad.

Gary said right, so, what I have here is a letter of commitment, financial commitment from Randolph County for these 2 projects on Community Crossings?

Joe Copeland said yes.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion that we approve this commitment letter? The commitment is \$345,321.82.

Tom made a motion to approve. Missy seconded the motion.

Gary said and that motion gives the president permission to sign it?

Tom said yes.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said uh huh.

Gary said all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said anything else?

Joe Copeland said one more item. I appeared before the council this past month talking about additional dollars needed for bridges. I think I spoke to you about it before. And they had no problem with it. They want to go year-by-year on how much is given for the bridges and so, this year, they said okay for 600,000. Okay, we've got to hurry up and get it, the additional, get it taken care of. They voted on it, so 600,000 for this year, but they said I had to come before you to get final.

Gary said to change ours to year-by-year.

Joe Copeland said yeah. And then we'll do it year-by-year and I'll keep track of how much we've spent and how much is left, and we'll keep each account by bridge separately, so, we know what's going on.

Gary said okay.

Joe Copeland said we keep close track.

Gary said alright. Any input on that, Tom?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said somebody like to make a motion to change our commitment to year-by-year and this particular being \$600,000.00 on the bridge funding?

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

Gary said anything else?

Joe Copeland said that's all I've got unless there's any questions on anything.

Jay Long said all I've got.

Gary said how's it going?

Jay Long said good, not bad.

Gary said I think you guys, I went over on the paved roads recently, it really looked good.

Jay Long said yeah, 200, yeah.

Joe Copeland said yeah, that was nice. It was.

Jay Long said yeah, turned out really good.

Gary said anybody else for the highway?

Joe Copeland said there was a nightmare this morning with 27. The State had closed it and they closed it for a 3-mile segment from 200 to 500 South and there's a truck stuck at 100 South and Base Road, and yeah, it was a mess.

Jay Long said to my understanding, they explained to me, it was supposed to be a soft closure. In their terms that's where traffic can still get through you know. Well then, we found out today it's not really a soft closure. They're detouring everybody on back roads and we've got a truck stuck in the road, so I called them again this morning and spoke to a guy from INDOT and he said that they were going to try to see what they could do to help them out, but it's supposed to be a one-day thing.

Gary said do you have pictures of the road before?

Jay Long said uh, yeah.

Gary said okay.

Jay Long said which, that takes you back to another thing. On our detoured roads, I spoke with the state before they did that and they assured us if there were damages done to those roads, as long as we had it recorded, you know, that there was paperwork for us to fill out, so I reached out to them again for that paperwork and they informed me well, there's really nothing we can do because if you do repairs before they, you know, so we're going to try to still do the paperwork and see if we can maybe go over somebody and see what we think.

Gary said you're saying because we repaired it to keep it safe, it disqualified us?

Jay Long said yeah, so basically, he was saying we should have just left the holes there and I mean, we can't do that. I mean.

Joe Copeland said I don't buy into that story. Okay. This needs to go higher up the chain.

Jay Long said so me and Joe are going to fill the paperwork out.

Gary said send it right on up.

Jay Long said yes.

Joe Copeland said it may have to go political, but it needs to go up the chain.

Gary said thank you. Appreciate it. Alright. Thank you.

Sydnee Cseresznye – RCU update

Gary said Sydnee, RCU update.

Sydnee Cseresznye said good morning. Thanks for having me today everyone. I just wanted to give a quarterly update. I know I was here at the beginning of last quarter and this is kind of the end of this quarter. But we've been doing a lot of great things at RCU. Gary, you're on our board and I think we appreciate commissioners and council involvement on our board. It's necessary and I think we've done some great things since we started this effort in May. So, I'll just kick it off. We are currently working on several grant or revolving loan fund related initiatives. So, we currently have 3 RLF programs that we administer. One through the EDA, one through OCRA and one through the USDA. So, two Federal and one State led. All of those programs are pretty dated or at the point in our life cycle of these programs where we may request that the funds are released and given to us to use at our discretion. There're some parameters involved in that. So, OCRA, for example, were the furthest along and we are conditionally approved to have those funds released. They, once they are released, we are required to disburse them in a grant form. And so, we'll have a public meeting once our application has been, our criteria and eligibility for the grant program has been approved, but now we are in the process of creating a timeline and application that we submit to OCRA. Once they approve that, then we'll be able to come before your body and have the public meeting and release the application date. So, I believe it's a couple hundred thousand dollars. I mean, it's a pretty substantial amount. And we have had some interest in some of our businesses, especially the smaller businesses in Randolph County that would benefit from utilizing these funds. So,

again, a one-time grant. The eligibility requirements are pretty broad. And so, we're hoping to have that open, application open by end of December, early 2026. The next program we're.

Gary said do you want to push that mic back just a tad bit. Is that forgivable grant?

Sydney Cseresznye said yeah, so it's not, it's not a loan at all. It's just a grant and you get that money and you have to show some receipts of what you use it for proof of adhering to the eligibility requirements. But, you don't have to pay the grant back.

Gary said okay.

Sydney Cseresznye said the next program we're kind of in the process in, we just submitted our application to the USDA, to have our RLF program released. We've had that for almost a decade now from what we can tell. And so, with that, with those funds, we are allowed to turn that into an RLF program of our own, which is music to my ears, because I would like to see some revolving funds that RCU is able to loan out, but also get back to keep a sustainable program. So, we were in the, we're kind of in the early stages of that. We submitted our application to the USDA because their loan was so old, there was some discrepancies in the paperwork that we had. But the USDA has been really great to work with, so we're just waiting to hear back on what the next steps are for that. I imagine it will be similar to OCRA, where we need to supply them with eligibility and loan requirements. Our intention is to keep that RLF program and make it our own parameters. Last grant that we have under our purview right now is the EDA loan. We have a lot of the login criteria, paperwork criteria, but we're still kind of working through just some of the first initial steps with our accounts that we need to create and the paperwork we need to put together to get that loan released back to us. I am not sure whether or not we have to make that into a grant or an RLF program of our own. I would like it to be the latter, for obvious reasons. So, outside of that, we are actively applying for a grant through the EPA and it's about a \$500,000.00 Brownfield grant. RCU will be the applicant of that. And so, what the grant will do is it covers funding for phase 1 and phase 2 testing of Brownfields. We are in the process of collecting property cards and addresses so that we can put together the application. We're using VCA Consulting. They actually are finishing up a \$500,000.00 Brownfield grant with Union City. And so, they're working with us to create an application. I want to thank Commissioner Williams for providing me with some addresses. A lot of the town and city leaders have done so as well. We want to make sure that the entire county is represented in this application. So, it's a pretty compelling application. It's a competitive process to be very clear. And we are, we are pretty unsure what's going to happen as far as Federal grant funding in 2026. So, it's imperative that we capitalize on this right now if we can. So, because of the government shut down, the criteria is kind of on pause. We have the application from last year, so we kind of get a gist of what we need to submit. But we're just waiting for those to be released. I had a meeting with BZA last week and they'll get those to me as soon as possible, and then we'll move forward with the application process, which is due in November with awards being announced by end of December. Moving on from that, READI 2.0 is another pretty big initiative that we're working on. So, in mid-September, the Region 6 steering committee, which is the East Central Regional Partnership now called Forge ECI, we are a part of a steering committee. Myself and Lisa Jennings represent Randolph County, and there's 8 other counties in that region who review READI funding. And so, the READI 2.0 funding took a

little bit to come out. This year, I think it was in early September that we finally got an announcement from the IEDC that those funds meet the READI 1.0 threshold of 65% and therefore, READI 2.0 funding was able to be released. There have been a couple instances across the region where projects that were initially awarded are no longer viable, and so we, as a steering committee, had to come up with a policy on what to do with those funds. I think there was agreement across the board that we all would like to see those monies that were awarded stay in the county that they were awarded in. So, we put together a policy. We approved it 2 or 3 weeks ago, and from here, what the next steps are, is for each county who does have a project that is no longer viable, for the local steering committee to meet. We do need to show preference to projects that have already been submitted and scored, and then we are able to accept additional project requests. With that said, we do have about a million dollars to re-allocate. We had a project fall through in Winchester, and that is no longer viable. So, we can award that money, one million, write a one million dollar check to a project or we can split it up into multiple. And so, that steering committee, that local steering committee is meeting tomorrow for the first time. We are on a little bit of a deadline. We have to submit by mid-September to the full steering committee at the region so they can review and then we will vote on that level as well. And then with the decision being made, wanting to be made by December 2nd. And so, I want to use the opportunity just to say, because we are on public record, that if there is anyone that does have a project that falls within READI 2.0, eligibility parameters, those being meeting the priorities of childcare, housing and quality of life, and infrastructure and then having a match, a local match, that can be in the form of a grant from the county or city or it can be in TIF or a permit, permitting fees. That match can look, it's pretty vague in what the public match has to be. But those two are some of the biggest parameters when applying for READI. So, if there is someone who wants to submit for READI 2.0 and did not previously in 2024 when the applications were originally released, I would recommend you getting with my office as soon as possible. We have the application, and the budget check list that I will need to submit to Region 6, so that they can preliminary vet it so then the local steering committee can review. So, those are my comments on that. It's a quick turnaround, but I'm pretty confident that we will be able to find a home for the funds.

Missy said I was just going to ask. You know, we appoint, we appropriated money, about \$140,000, am I right on that?

Gary said 140. Uh huh.

Missy said for blight control.

Sydney Cseresznye said uh huh.

Missy said could that go in there and be a matching? Columbus did it, but they did it for, city of Columbus, they did it 4 years ago.

Sydney Cseresznye said yes. And I think that's a good question.

Missy said maybe not all, maybe not that much of a match, but some?

Sydnee Cseresznye said especially for a housing project. I think so, yes. And then there's the LEI READI funding 2, which I'm candidly just becoming familiar with. And that's more of like the Lilly Endowment and that's blight and Brownfields are really a part of that as well. And so, I think to answer your question, yes, I actually think it can be used for both buckets.

Missy said okay.

Gary said meaning tearing down own houses can be part of the READI 2.0?

Sydnee Cseresznye said don't quote me on that, but I do believe.

Gary said we have such a blight problem, why would, I mean what's the match now? Is it still 4 to 1?

Sydnee Cseresznye said it's a 1 to 1.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said 1 to 1 match, so we would have to bring up a million to get a million?

Sydnee Cseresznye said no, not necessarily. I mean it could look a lot different, right? You could do it in a TIF. You could do it, they have permitting fees. I mean, you could do it in land donation. There's a lot of different, for example, if someone had a housing development, which I think we do in one of our projects, and they had to tear down existing housing, there could be a public of maybe some of those funds, the cleanup of it. I think it can look a lot different. We can also, at RCU, what we can do, and this is candidly something I have a question on because we don't have the funds available currently, we can act as, if we gave them a grant to do so. So, if our RLF programs or our grant programs were up and running right now, theoretically, from my understanding of how the application works, you could use and RCU grant program as a matching fund to be a part of that.

Gary said I guess I'm still confused a little bit. Wasn't the READI grant a 4 to 1 match?

Sydnee Cseresznye said I think that was inclusive of public, private, and the individual. So, I don't know if the, I don't think, and I apologize if I've made this, didn't articulate this appropriately, I'm not sure it's a 1 to 1 for the public match, so much as it is, that's one of the legs to meet the 1 to 1. So, you come.

Gary said okay, because that would be a tough sell to come for a million dollars for somebody else's million.

Sydnee Cseresznye said and that's a million, that's a million dollars total they want for their project. So, if they had 250,000 on there and then they had an investor have 250,000 and maybe they got a donation of a land which was valued at 180, I mean, there's, adding up to a million. So, I don't believe that any of our projects, and it's been a little bit since I've looked at them, but I don't believe any of our projects were over a million dollars of a request.

Gary said okay. Go ahead.

Sydnee Cseresznye said outside of that, those are our 2, I think most immediate buckets that we're working on. We do have a couple workforce initiatives. Randolph County United is assisting with a pretty significant merger happening in the county. We're working as a state partner in coordinating some potential state level support there. And we're in constant conversation with a pretty consistent conversation with both the mayor and the executives of that organization. We're also partnering with another local major employer in Randolph County, and they're looking to make a pretty sizeable investment in their organization in an effort to stay in Randolph County, so we're acting as an economic partner in that too, to see how we can help. Outside of that, current efforts for business retention and expansion, I think that our grant and Revolving Loan Fund programs are going to be our biggest, one of our biggest benefits that Randolph County United can offer to our small businesses across the county. We're rolling out a full business retention and expansion program where our staff, I mean, it's kind of all hands-on deck situation, where we have a list of both members and just businesses in Randolph County as a whole, and we'd like to visit all of them by the end of 2026. And so, we'll roll out that program in January. And our chamber will be taking a pretty big role in making sure that businesses are visited both again, members and non-members of our chamber, to make sure that they have what they need. And if they don't have what they need, how can Randolph County United assist with some of that, whether it's workforce initiatives, I will say that, and I take ownership of this, I could do a better job of tracking how many inquiries we get. But since May, I have probably fielded about 2 dozen businesses, and their calls and whether they need grant funding for heavy equipment or they're just looking for permitting questions or they have some state agency questions with DNR, IDOA or things like that, we've been able to help them. And while we don't have the funds to provide them, with maybe some of the ones that have expansion efforts, there are state resources right now. So, I look forward to kind of adding that to our resource list, once we get our RLF and grant programs under way. So, I'm pretty excited for what that looks like in 2026. Last point I want to discuss and you heard me talk about this, in my first presentation with you guys, strategic planning for Randolph County. I did some digging and it looks like you guys, at one point, had a strategic plan done in 2014 and it was for the years 2015 to 2019 I believe. And I want to note that this is different than your comprehensive plan. This is more about the strategic plan as the county goes forward in areas like business and growth and attraction workforce alignment, infrastructure and community priority. So, it goes along side a comprehensive plan, but it's a little, it's tailored a little bit differently. We don't dive into zoning and some of those other things that a comprehensive plan would be. Comprehensive plan was done in 2019, so that's outdated as well, by statute if you wanted to use that plan. To go for any kind of funding, you would need to update that. My request from my office will be in 2026, once we kind of solidify and present the budget to our board in October, would be to use some of those funds that we've been able to move around and cut in some areas to partner with the county on an official strategic plan. I think all the buckets of initiatives that I've presented to you were really great. I think those should be the priority of the organization. I'm also very sensitive to the fact that we are in part funded by local government, and so, I think it would be beneficial for both the county and RCU to partner on a real strategic plan, a formal strategic plan, so that we all understand what direction we're rowing in. And if there's any question as to whether or not we are or are not meeting those goals we can reference that strategic plan and

have a results oriented discussion about that. So, you, this is not the last time you will hear me talk about this, but this is something that I'm thinking of is that we are solidifying our budget at RCU. Then that brings me to my last point, which is our 2026 budget. We have solidified that internally and we will present that to our board in our October meeting. I do believe that Commissioner Friend or, and I don't know if it was Councilor Fisher, but it was presented to us that there's some kind of amendment or something that needs to happen with the EDIT funds because we, I think our budget is around 243, but we are approved for a little bit lower than that, and 270, around that area, was with Tourism and 243 was without Tourism, and so, I don't know if a different, Scott made it seem like a different budget was approved and that you guys might need to amend your EDIT. But, we are operating under the assumption and the intention of operating within that 243, 45,000-dollar budget.

Gary said the budget was amended I believe to reduce by \$35,000 in the year 2024. And the EDIT plan is it's going to come back around again reinstated to where it was.

Sydnee Cseresznye said okay. And yes, I knew there was something to that effect and then again, Tourism was taken out of that. So, that's why we're not at that 270 mark anymore. So, we're working within that. We've made some cuts, but with the intention of redirecting that in areas that we feel are more appropriate and would have more of an impact for the county. And so, that's my presentation.

Gary said I said I can check and see that it's reinstated for 2026.

Sydnee Cseresznye said okay. I appreciate that.

Gary said I think it was.

Sydnee Cseresznye said okay.

Gary said I'm pretty certain it was.

Tom said we had it the last EDIT meeting, didn't we reinstate that? We had to do it at the EDIT meeting.

Gary said yeah.

Sydnee Cseresznye said okay. I appreciate that.

Gary said there was no one in opposition of not doing it.

Sydnee Cseresznye said okay.

Gary said it all started at the council anyway.

Sydnee Cseresznye said yes, yes.

Gary said alright. Anything else? Missy, anything?

Missy said yeah, I do. So, last week, a couple of us were in, had the opportunity to go to the conference for both the commissioners and the council, and I thought it was a really good meeting. And I had the opportunity to go and listen to Sydnee explain better than I've had anybody explain. All of us were going, I know you had a long line up there afterwards. I have a much better feeling about, well not necessarily expenses, but I'm understanding where the state is going. And that's because of your lobbying and I really do appreciate that. We, several of us met, about 22 of us, in fact, met back in that same room at 4:15 that afternoon, to go over what you, what did each one of us get out of what you've said. And just like the Brownfields, you talked about a lot of that, she really dissected and had common sense answers to what is going on. That doesn't mean anybody understands it or likes it, but at least, we can't know where we're at right now, which, maybe isn't, maybe some of the people in the state government don't even know where they're at right now. Would you agree with that a little bit?

Sydney Cseresznye said I think that, I think you heard me say this Missy, and this is just me putting my policy hat on, taking my economic development hat off a little bit. There was a goal for senate enrolled act 1 and that was to move to a rate-base system. And I look at it as putting boulders in a big jar, and then everything else in that bill was the sand that fills in those gaps. And that's where you have some of the discrepancies on how senate enrolled act 1 I believe is going to roll out, whether you're heavy industry and you're affected by the 2 million dollars deminis or removal of the 30% floor, or you're already at your local income tax cap and you can't go backwards. And you know, the expenditures that come along with that, or whether you're impacted by the lane miles from the road funding bill, you know. So, yes, we are where we're at, and I think, I have a pretty good relationship with fiscal leadership, and I'm blessed to have that kind of relationship with them. And I think they're pretty open about you know, not wait and see, but a lot of those triggers or levers aren't pulled until 2028. And I think that they, to give them their credit, that they do have an open mind on some issues and they might not know where they're going, but more levers will be pulled. And honestly, I mean, this I guess, is the benefit of me working here too. I'm happy to send you that presentation.

Missy said that would be great.

Sydnee Cseresznye said yeah, so, I can send that to you so all of you can have it.

Missy said that would be really great I think.

Gary said the levers internal political pressure, I can't imagine a state rep who voted for all of this, not being pressured.

Sydnee Cseresznye said well and I think it's an interesting conversation to have. I said this at the, I said this towards the end of my presentation down there. You know, I think counties are faring a lot better than cities and towns. I mean, counties are impacted by cities and towns, you know, and their budgets, right, and so, because they do collaborate on so many projects. And so, I encourage people to have that discussion with their legislators. I think if you voted yes on it, then it's your job to defend what you voted for, answer to what you voted for. I don't think they

need to be adversarial conversations, so much as it is, if you believe I'm misspending my money as a local government, where do you think I am misspending my money, because that was the narrative during session, that we need to rein in government spending.

Missy said from the townships, up.

Sydnee Cseresznye said up, right, you know, the counties were included in that narrative. And so, and we weren't separated from the schools. It was all of us. And so, that's where, I think some legislators learned a lot this summer, to be quite candid. And so, it'll be interesting to see where they go with it. Candidly, and it's just because I'm in the world, I do believe we're going to have a special session. I believe it'll be about 48 hours. It'll be primarily redistricting. I do believe some cleanup of senate enrolled act 1 will happen. I believe they will be clean up related, not policy driven. So, I don't think they will be substantial as far as what kind of language is produced, but I do know personally, of several legislators who are working on clean up bills for next year. So, I think that's something for this county to be mindful of.

Gary said anything else, Missy?

Missy said nope, that's it.

Gary said Tom?

Tom said one thing I would say is with your, going back to the budget numbers, the council did approve the lower numbers, so if EDIT board didn't change it, the council will have to change your budget. You will have to go back to council to change your budget to increase it.

Sydnee Cseresznye said I'm a little confused. Can you repeat that? I apologize.

Tom said when the council passed the budget for next year, in the past your budget, it had the lower EDIT dollars.

Sydnee Cseresznye said the 240?

Tom said no.

Sydnee Cseresznye said oh, councilor Fisher made it seem like he passed the or they passed the 243 and that you, then you would have to come back and re-approve EDIT funds.

Tom said I'm pretty sure it because, they had to pass what was in the EDIT plan. We had that discussion there, it was the same, with a couple of other things that was in the EDIT plan. So, we need to confirm that.

Gary said they don't have to pass what's in the EDIT plan because that's how it got cut to begin with.

Tom said I'm pretty sure, I was there when we passed that. I was pretty sure they passed the lower number.

Sydney Cseresznye said we can get with.

Tom said so we need to make sure that if we

Sydney Cseresznye said yes, whatever body, yeah.

Gary said there's 4 of them here today listening, so we'll be able to get to it.

Sydney Cseresznye said okay. Understood. I appreciate it.

Gary said as far as the commissioners, I think we are all united in thinking we're going to go back to where it was minus the Tourism for 2026.

Sydney Cseresznye said okay. I appreciate that.

Missy said and is that working out with Tourism being separated? It looks like it is.

Sydney Cseresznye said I believe so, yes. You know, I think we're pivoting a little bit more on the true business economic development side, and there's always some Gray areas. And so, we're working on that, but I think it's productive.

Gary said okay.

Sydney Cseresznye said thank you.

Gary said thank you.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Sheriff's compensation agreement

Gary said on to other business, Sheriff.

Art Moystner said morning.

Gary said good morning. This is your compensation contract?

Art Moystner said yes.

Gary said and the council has passed the amount in your budget?

Art Moystner said it was budgeted by them.

Gary said is everybody familiar with this contract?

Missy said uh huh.

Gary said everybody has read it, looked at it? I was looking for the number. \$117,687 for next year?

Art Moystner said that's what I was advised by the auditor's office, yes.

Gary said okay. Someone like to make the motion for the president of the board to sign this contract with the sheriff?

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

Gary said okay, what else, Art?

Art Moystner said that's all I have. Do you guys have questions for me?

Gary said no, I don't.

Art Moystner said I'll be your shortest one of the day. Thank you.

Gary said well wait a minute. Missy, do you have any questions for the sheriff?

Missy said no.

Gary said Tom? Now you can be the shortest. Thank you.

Minutes of September 2 and September 15, 2025

Gary said the minutes of September the 2nd and September 15th, 2025. Everybody's got them by email. Somebody like to make a motion to accept them?

Tom made a motion to accept. Missy seconded the motion.

Gary said we have a motion to accept both sets?

Tom said both sets.

Gary said that second include both sets?

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$357,419.38

Gary said while those are going around, we have payroll claims, \$357,419.38. Somebody like to make a motion to approve the payroll claims?

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

Regular Claims \$1,108,736.12

Gary said next, regular claims. So, we have the regular claims \$1,108,736.12. Someone like to make a motion to approve the regular claims?

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

BF&S Claim (Airport T-Hanger) \$1,724.57

Gary said BF&S claim, airport T-hanger, 1,724.57. Before we get to it, were you able to talk to them about a new building out there?

Missy said yeah, we did. We can, Bev and I can bring them up on that, right Bev? You were, were you out there for that board meeting?

Gary said want to get through the claims here and then?

Missy said yeah. Sure.

Gary said the BF&S claim, airport T-hanger, 1,724.57. Somebody like to make a motion to approve?

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

Coblentz Construction Claim \$160,882.50

Gary said and then the Coblentz construction claim, \$160.882.50.

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

Coblentz Construction Claim \$22,500.74

Gary said and Coblentz construction claim of \$22,500.74.

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

Randolph Central Drug Free Grant Disbursement Claim \$1,211.65

Gary said Randolph Central School. A drug free grant disbursement claim, \$1,211.65.

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

Achieva Resources approval letter

Gary said okay, we've got Achieva Resources approval letter. So, I just need to sign that for the Edit fund. Somebody like to make a motion for me to sign this for the commissioners for the Achieva Resources?

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

Disaster Recovery MOU form

Gary said this is a memorandum of understanding for if we have a disaster and we have to call in contractual help?

Nikola said yes.

Gary said okay. Who's asking for this?

Nikola said Shaneyfelt.

Gary said Chris Shaneyfelt, yes. Somebody like to make a motion for him to use this memorandum of understanding when the need arises? I didn't see a problem.

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

Probation request for grant application

Gary said okay. We've got Probation request for a grant. This is a pass through grant, isn't it? So, want to make a motion to allow the president to sign for the grant application?

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

Children's advocate grant request application

Gary said and the same thing for Children's advocate grant request. It's a pass through grant too?

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

Morgue contract discussion

Gary said morgue contract discussion. I was good with it. He just needs to put the dates in and present it.

Tom said Meeks, well, he's not here.

Gary said Meeks is okay. He sent a letter.

Tom said he's okay with everything?

Gary said yeah.

Tom said okay.

Gary said Meeks had a question on the 5%. It used to be 10% of the half. Now, it's 5% of the whole thing, which equals 10% of the half. We went through that on the Farmland building. So, with us approving to move forward today, then Maze will give us a contract that can be signed and we can get this started. So, somebody like to make a motion to approve the tentative contract from Maze for the morgue expansion? All they need to do is fill in the dates.

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

Old Hwy Barn discussion (Missy)

Gary said okay, Missy, old highway.

Missy said as you know, I've brought this up before. I'd like to kind of revisit it and then for a future meeting, really give some expanded thought to this. First of all, I obviously live near that old county highway barn and some of my neighbors come to me quite randomly, in the first, but now, kind of in a group, because they're concerned what's going to happen to that if it sets and deteriorates more. And so, in the last 3 weeks, I've had 2 people, 2 companies come to me and say any way we can lease that building, any way we can buy that building. And we would repair it. We would come up with a standard contract with the county on what our expectations would be. And I know that there's some of that that probably needs to be torn off. And I also talked to another consultant and I said, can, what about the gas tanks that may be underneath there, and I was told by 2 different ones to sell it as is. You don't have to guarantee anything. You don't have to do inspections. If they want to do them, they can, but you can sell that as is. So, I guess the opportunity for a business to expand and bring 6 more employees on and to use that building, and then allow another pole barn to be, the revenue from that to sell it, to build a pole barn at the current, called the new, the new county highway garage, which would hold any equipment, new equipment that they need to bring out there and get the highway department in one location and clean the location of the old highway barn up. I'd say we sell it as is, we do absolutely no repairs, make no guarantees, but the idea of expanding businesses or bringing on new employees, to watch our county business, these adventures grow, to me, again, I know I'm visiting this again, might even continue to visit it more but, it's been sitting over there an awfully long time. And I did submit it as a brownfield, which doesn't take any of the opportunity to sell it away. It just means that either we might be able to get some revenue out of it, I don't think we would, but a business could get some revenue out of it if it went through, I'm on Sydnee's for the Brownfields. And so, it kind of fits right in with there also. So, I'm just wanting to do, honestly, wanting to do something with it. We've had it setting there for, how long have the new county barns been out there?

Gary said 4 years maybe?

Tom said 4 or 5 years?

Missy said I think it's 5 years, but, that's my concern. I think that's a lot of my neighbors' concerns is, at least if it's occupied and taken care of, that, and I asked, talked to another attorney down in French Lick about what kind of contract can you write up when a county or a city or a municipality sells something. They can actually put the guidelines that they have to fulfill to purchase the property. So, I think we can put some restrictions on that and we'd be done with it.

Gary said Jake, did you ever get the preliminary quotes that we were discussing at the last meeting? Looks like you did.

Jake Donham said so, Jack Hinty and I looked at the facility. He took his notes of everything. I haven't heard back from him yet. He was going to price out 3 different options we looked at. But I haven't heard back from him yet on that.

Gary said okay.

Jake Donham said but, in, same way Missy's speaking, since this has been talked about enough and gotten out, I've had several people contacted me like hey, we need room, we want to, is it possible we can buy it? And I'm like, that's commissioner decision, not mine. And I said they're not sure what they're going to do with it yet. But I've had 2 different businesses. One of them was just a storage facility for parts and pieces. The other one is a full-fledged plumbing company. So, I mean, word's getting out, but I don't have any numbers or anything.

Gary said you think you could have them by the next meeting, maybe?

Jake Donham said I can shake the tree and get something.

Gary said we'll look at it so everybody can get all the information they need. I do know you just can't sell it straight out. You have to actually put it out for bid.

Missy said right.

Gary said so, when you put it out for bid, you don't know.

Jake Donham and to be fair, even if you were going to lease it now and still maintain ownership, I think you'd still have to put out bid for lease because there's been so many people come in and asking about it, to be fair, give everybody a chance to put a bid in, at some aspect, I think, because there's been several interests.

Gary said what I'll do, because I think we've been bringing it up, you have a passion for that, I mean, I'm not swayed a whole lot right now. That's no disrespect.

Missy said no.

Gary said but I will get with Meeks and see what his view of how things like that would transpire if we did it.

Tom said what's the zoning on that building right now?

Gary said huh?

Tom said what's the zoning on that right now? Do you know what it is?

Gary said I do not.

Jake Donham said I had my wife look it up the other day because somebody was asking about it, and I want to say it was still agricultural.

Gary said seriously?

Jake Donham said I think, but I'm not sure.

Tom said I just, if we bring it up, we need to know where the zoning is at and then what can be put in that zoning.

Jake Donham said maybe we could have our county surveyor pull it up real quick.

Gary said could you, Ed? Find out what the zoning is right now currently on the highway, old highway building?

Ed Thornburg said yeah, yeah. I'll do that. That's no problem.

Gary said okay. I believe it has to be addressed Missy. I mean, I agree with that part of it, so, you know, we'll see where we go with it. It doesn't need to set there and rot down. I agree with that.

Tom said I think we all, I think we all agree on that.

Jack Donham said I mean, I still think there's some cleanup we need to do on our end, just, there're some structures out there just specifically county highway oriented that just probably need to go away. And that one building's really not real safe.

Missy said yeah.

Gary said but my biggest hang up with it all right now today is where, the area we're dealing with and the development going on.

Jake Donham said right.

Gary said but I'm sure that's in everybody's mind

Missy said yeah. I think in the future, though, the city of Winchester, they're going to add more housing or whoever is going to, they need to do a lot of thinking about if they go west of Huntsville Pike, because you're going to have, you could have homes on both sides of that.

Gary said right.

Missy said and with semis flying, and they fly through there sometimes, with them both trying to exit or enter or doing whatever, I hope they think about doing a set back and doing.

Jake Donham said we may just need to level and put a roundabout right there.

Missy said yeah. That's right. That only cost 2 million, so, you should be able to do that.

Gary said that's in the big city. We could probably do it for a couple loads of gravel. We could have a roundabout.

Missy said well I'll tell you, they've got roundabouts everywhere don't they?

Gary said oh, they do. Yeah, because the infrastructure for the housing there now is on that side.

Missy said yeah. I think they're, I think they need to rethink a little bit.

Gary said okay. Anything else on that, Missy?

Missy said no. Thanks for your time.

Gary said Jake, anything else, just let us know at the next meeting.

Jake Donham said yep. I'll check with Jack and I'll be back the next meeting with it.

Gary said appreciate it. Tom, anymore comment on it?

Tom said I do not.

Gary said thank you.

Security Architectural design fee

Gary said security architectural design fee. This is for the courthouse?

Jake Donham said yeah. So, that was, that's the Argo's quote, I'm guessing is what is on there. That's just a, I think that was more information, we were just getting pricing for the judge to submit him for.

Gary said \$3,000.00 could be if Argo do it.

Jake Donham said what's that?

Gary said \$3,000.00 if Argo give the, if they did their design?

Jake Donham said yeah. Yeah.

Gary said that's just kind of a flow chart design of?

Jake Donham said run that past me again?

Gary said is that like a traffic flow pattern?

Jake Donham said so, when Argo came in, we pretty much just said this is what we're looking to do on it. So, they looked at the front entryway, what it's going to take to retro-fit that to get our entry, exit points, east and west doors, and then throughout the rest of the building, the committee had different other items discussed for it. So, he just through numbers at stuff for the judge to be able to apply for the grant. So, that's what, this is pretty much just informational for the judge, kind of get some direction where we need to go, because some of the things the committee we're talking about, I question whether you know, ADA life safety, that kind of stuff. So, what we can and can't do. So, he came and just gave us some rough numbers, he and his architect, to give to the committee so they can discuss whatever they discuss on the security side of things.

Gary said this Missy, you're a rep on that committee, I mean, if it's 100% done on when we get security, where do you think we're at? I know we're going to get security. I just wonder how far along we are?

Missy said I don't know. I mean, I can't even guess.

Gary said okay, that's fair. We're still in planning stages?

Missy said yeah, because we're still planning.

Gary said fair enough. Okay. What about you? What I mean your thoughts on the flow?

Jake Donham said yeah, shut down east and west for sure. There're different directions you can go on what mechanisms and doors, hardware and so forth. And then down there, down in the lobby, pretty much the structure is there with the doors in it, just redo the, take that out and redo the whole thing.

Gary said right, right.

Jake Donham said have to bring it out a little further, put in 2 sets of doors, east and west in that entryway so you've got one flow coming in and one to go out. And then that would kind of be the security station with the equipment, is our understanding on the one side.

Missy said it's so early on in the process right now. And as far as, like employees, we're not going to make employees wait out there if there's a jury trial to the sidewalk or to the road, and then waiting to get in, so there's going to be some different entrance and exit points. But, every employee and every person who might come in there has got to know that that's got to be shut behind you and you're not going to prop anything open. If we're going to do it, we're going to go by these rules to try to keep everybody safe.

Jake Donham said right, yeah.

Missy said as far as, you know, like real details, there hasn't been a , and I think the more we've all thought about it, we'll come back with some more solid thoughts on it.

Jake Donham said yeah, the meeting I got asked to come to, they were just in preliminary stages, just looking at all the stuff that's out there. You can go over the top if you want or you can just get the basics and get it started. And you've got to start somewhere.

Gary said I feel comfortable we've been through this several times through the years. This one here is going to end up getting a security system.

Missy said right. And I know Jake, you've gone up and looked at Portland's too, so he's seen what other courthouses are doing and what their needs are.

Jake Donham said I've looked at Jay County. The bailiffs and I went up there and looked at it. I've looked at Tipton County and talked to them. And the one thing that you're going to have to have to make this work is a body. Until we get an actual person in here, so, I would explore right now, at least getting one person hired as a security to stay on the first floor, just to look at the entry points, to get familiar with the building, get familiar with the flow, and we're going to have to add the equipment in anyways later. We know that. But you have to have somebody to operate it. So, why not get that person on site now and just kind of be on the first floor, looking at entry points. If we're not going to put a person down there, I'm done talking about it, to be honest with you, because you have to have a person to make it work. And we've talked about, everybody knows we need a metal detector, a baggage scanner would be nice. It's not a 100% necessary. I mean, you can physically look in the bags. I mean, Jay County does. But you can go over the top with it and get all the bells and whistles or we can just start the basics and build from that.

Gary said you have to have manpower.

Jake Donham said right.

Missy said yeah.

Jake Donham said and that's where it's always been the stop, was manpower.

Gary said okay. Be good discussion for our council too because that's where they'll come in. Okay. And the sheriff. Alright. Thank you.

Randolph County Jail cost increase

Gary said Randolph County jail increase. Jake. Come right on back. Just in case we have any questions on the Randolph County jail cost increase. I'd asked you about the increases on there because I was a little taken back by how much it was, mainly because it seemed to me like the 10% of what they were estimating crossed over into labor too. I understand materials. I understand tariffs, but when labor was just thrown in there too, that, from your experience from our contracting, which told me, this is not an out of line increase of what's going on.

Jake Donham said everything I'm up against, any contract I call now, it's, everything's going up. Parts, pieces, shipping, I mean, there's, everybody's getting hit.

Tom said and labor expenses.

Jake Donham said I think labor was the last portion that, I mean, parts and pieces have been going up forever, and the labor is starting to hit now. I mean, they're, the same boat, they're having a hard time finding replacement people.

Missy said right.

Gary said that's their problem is, yeah.

Jake Donham said we've been through that too. I mean, but to find qualified people, we're going to have to pay, and I'm not going to just call any heating and air company to work on our stuff. You can't. It's all specialized anymore and the guys that work on that stuff, they know that.

Gary said okay. Well the reason that's on that too is because our bonding ordinance will be in front of the council tomorrow. So, maybe we can get a locked in price on that. Any comments on that, Tom?

Tom said no.

Gary said Missy?

Missy said no.

Gary said thanks, Jake.

EDIT Plan approval

Gary said EDIT plan approval. This is for the \$140,000.00 added to it for the blight, and there's also an ordinance for it too, not ordinance, resolution. Someone like to make a motion to approve our new EDIT plan with the \$140,000.00 for getting rid of old blighted houses?

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

Set date for EDIT Meeting

Gary said we've got to set a meeting date, probably not this week. Missy, are you good with the 29th on Wednesday?

Missy said yeah, I think so.

Gary said I am too. Tom?

Tom said yes.

Gary said at 6:00. Also, send that out to the other cities and towns in case they have EDIT changes.

Blight Declaratory Resolution 2025-16

Gary said alright. We have a blight declaratory resolution. I read it. I like it. Missy any comment?

Missy said motion to approve.

Gary said Tom, you have a comment?

Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Treasurer monthly reports

Gary said treasurer's monthly reports. Somebody like to make a motion to accept the treasurer's reports?

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

Resolution 2025-17

Gary said okay, we've got resolution 2025-17, a resolution to declare certain personal property of Randolph County Indiana as unneeded and to be considered surplus property. And this is for EMS, the ambulance. Someone like to make a motion to approve this resolution?

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

Gary said okay. Before we get to citizen comments, Missy, you have anything?

Missy said no, I don't.

Gary said Nikola, you have anything?

Nikola Clevenger said no.

Gary said we need to set an executive meeting Laura has it down there. We need to get a, it's got to be a 48-hour notice. Can you do it on Thursday, Missy?

Missy said this week? No.

Gary said you cannot. We can't do it this week.

Missy said no.

Gary said can you do it on Thursday, Tom?

Tom said I can. I won't be available all next week.

Gary said okay. So, I can do it on Thursday, and then we'll hold another one.

Missy said okay.

Gary said I'm sure, at least 2.

Missy said I mean, I could call in. Would that help any?

Gary said we'll find out if we can because it's not for the public.

Missy said right.

Gary said I hope so. And I'll ask Meeks.

Missy said yeah, I can call, I'd call any time.

Gary said I can see that when you don't but these are closed. I can see it no, but not when it's closed anyway. Okay. We need to take a look, Ed, on the carbon capture. Ed and I and Debbie discussed that last week, do we want to have that as an addendum to the M2 allowable uses on carbon capture, which is the highest or do we want to have it in M2 but go to special exception every time there's a carbon capture project, to BZA? Thoughts Tom?

Tom said I like the special exception. I would, I've got the you know, the contact information for the attorney for the state that was dealing with that. I'll give her a call and get some recommendations.

Gary said our only role in it is to set the M2. Everybody upstream from us takes it from there.

Tom said right. Get the recommendation of how we should word it.

Gary said right, for land use. Okay. That works.

Ed Thornburg said zoning on the highway, on the old highway barn, ag limited.

Gary said ag limited.

Ed Thornburg said ag limited. I will get the list of what's acceptable in that, and email that to all of you later today.

Gary said appreciate that. Thank you, Ed.

Ed Thornburg said yeah, I just texted Debra. She looked at the map.

Gary said we have our EDIT meeting. We have that. We have that. Tom?

Tom said I don't have anything.

Citizen Comments (3 minutes)

Gary said any citizens that are here today have anything to bring to the commissioners? Yes, Claudia. Retired citizens as welcome. Good morning.

Claudia Thornburg said good morning. My name is Claudia Thornburg and I am here on behalf of the Angel tree again. I did not get my written request in this year. And we just want to make sure that we can still have the tree down in the lobby where people can pick up their angels and put the applications down in the lobby.

Gary said works for me. Missy?

Missy said yes, absolutely.

Gary said Tom?

Claudia Thornburg said okay. Thank you.

Gary said someone want to make a motion for the record that the Angel tree can use our lobby?

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

Gary said thank you Claudia.

Claudia Thornburg said thank you.

Missy said nice article about you in the newspaper too. We really, that you've done a lot more than what people, we know you've done a lot, but even over and above what we all knew. So, congratulations.

Claudia Thornburg said thank you.

Gary said a lot of times, that more than what you did in the.

Claudia Thornburg said well we did put the Angel tree picture in there and everybody said hey wait, that's way too early for that. And I said but it got your attention.

Gary said I don't know, I think stuff's out at Walmart already.

Claudia Thornburg said yes, that's true.

Gary said anybody else in attendance today would like to come forward before the commissioners?

Adjournment

Gary said seeing nobody, would somebody like to make a motion to adjourn?

Missy made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded the motion. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned

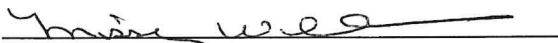
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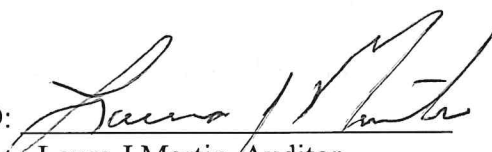
Gary Friend



Tom Kerns



Missy Williams

ATTESTED: 

Laura J Martin, Auditor