

Randolph County Commissioners

November 15, 2021

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Tom Chalfant and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura J Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mindy Peed – Second reading Ordinance 2021-22

Mike said this is the second reading of Ordinance 2021-22 an Ordinance recertifying districts for County Commissioner and County Council in Randolph County. This ordinance passed the first reading at our last meeting with a vote of 3 to 0. We did not suspend the rules to go ahead and pass it last meeting, so this will be the second reading in title only Ordinance 2021-22. I have not received any calls or contact from anyone regarding this.

Gary made a motion to have the second reading of 2021-22 by title only. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary made a motion to suspend the rules and have the third and final reading of Ordinance 2021-22 by title only and adopt today. Tom seconded.

Mike said prior to that I should ask Mindy and Stephanie, are there any amendments to this Ordinance prior to us passing it, you've not changed anything?

Mindy said no.

Mike said I have a motion for suspending the rules, all in favor of that motion signify by saying aye.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said that is a unanimous vote, I would entertain a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-22.

STATE OF INDIANA)
)
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH)

BEFORE THE RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ORDINANCE 2021-22

AN ORDINANCE RECERTIFYING DISTRICTS FOR

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND COUNTY COUNCIL
IN RANDOLPH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-2-2-4, the Randolph County Commissioners are required to establish County Commissioner Districts.

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-2-3-4, the Randolph County Commissioners are required to establish County Council Districts.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance is to recertify election districts in Randolph County for County Commissioner and County Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED as follows:

Section 1: Randolph County is divided into 3 County Commissioner election districts, which map of those districts is attached hereto, and designated as follows:

East District: This district shall consist of all of Jackson Township; Wayne Township; Washington Township; and Greensfork Township.

Middle District: This district shall consist of all of Ward Township and White River Township.

West District: This district shall consist of all of Green Township; Monroe Township; Stoney Creek Township; Union Township; and Franklin Township.

Section 2: Randolph County is divided into 4 County Council election districts, which map of those districts is attached hereto, and designated numerically as follows:

District 1: This district shall consist of all of Ward Township; Wayne Township; and Jackson Township.

District 2: This district shall consist of all of Green Township; Franklin Township; Monroe Township; and Stoney Creek Township.

District 3: This district shall consist of all of Union Township; Washington Township; Greensfork Township; and the following precinct in White River Township, Precinct 2.

District 4: This district shall consist of the following precincts in Whiteriver Township, Precinct 1; and Winchester Precincts 1, 2, 3, and 4

Section 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4: If any section, provision, or any part of this Ordinance is adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid.

Tom made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-22. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner & Joe Copeland– Frontier Utility Agreement

Mike Haffner said this utility agreement is basically just boring under 300 South, 8853 West 300 South Farmland.

Mike asked are you recommending that we enter this utility agreement.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Gary made a motion to approve the Frontier Utility agreement. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner said I don't have anything else but Joe has a historic bridge to talk about.

Joe said bridge 113, 300 South approximately 2 miles west of State Road 1, it's a non-select historic and it needs to be resurfaced.

Mike Haffner said it's a steel truss bridge with the grates on the deck.

Joe said I had the proposal; my understanding is you have been informed of this proposal and information. We have a proposal from SJCA to do a historic analysis for the structure. INDOT works kind of strange. What's going on is, if we submit to ask for money for the historic review and the analysis, we have to put in all the information in the application. In other words, how much the bridge costs, what kind of bridge it's going to be, the whole ten yards. Then if they come back, the review committee and says no, that's not what we want. Your going to have to do this, this and this and if it costs ½ million dollars more, where on the hook for ½ million. They will not provide another penny more but if we do the review before hand and submit it, we can get a purserie review from the committee saying thumbs up, okay proceed. So then when we submit the application then we know what were going after and we know that theirs not going to be additional problems.

Mike asked this review would tell us whether or not it could be exempted from historic select.

Joe said the analysis, I'm tending to go toward replacement and there's some ways we can do that, they'll have to show the alternative. In other words, do not replace, replace, try to rehab. I seen a sample of a historic analysis and it was 140 some pages long, this is not a small undertaking to be able to do this. They're going to have to pretty much design the new structure on what it's going to be to replace this. To know what to put in the analysis. I think it needs replaced, now Henry had a bridge that I believe was nonselect and they were able to remove the structure, set it off to the side, they stored in the county highway yard and it had to sit there so long while trying to find somebody to purchase the bridge and use it for something else like a park or golf course or whatever. We met the time limit, nobody wanted it, low and behold it sat there and sat there and just this year, we were able to get rid of it. A local contractor bought it, he owns the golf course there at memorial park and he wants to put it in the golf course. We sold it for scrap price. So, I don't know if they still allow us to do that, maybe we can set it off to the side, let is set and then see if we can sell it or find someone to buy it.

Mike asked this would be expensed out over the next nine months then?

Joe said yes.

Mike said I don't see the attached proposal and man hour justification.

Joe said I have it.

Tom asked will this all be reimbursable in the project?

Joe said no.

Mike said I guess historic select bridges are more expensive to replace. Is that a fair statement?

Joe said yes.

Mike said so this analysis might tell us that we would find a way to not replace it with a historic select?

Joe said right.

Mike said which could save us money in the long run?

Joe said right.

Mike said or it would say historic select and when we decide to replace it we would ask for the actual money?

Joe said yes. I've done two historic rehabs in my tenure, one was a 200-foot steel truss and the other one was about a 70- or 80-foot iron truss and they are both still standing today. The problem is the condition, number one and number two is the width, you can't get farm equipment through. There are also some more problems with this because just west of the structure there's a lot of cat tails growing and it's real wet. It's going to be considered I'm sure a wet land and were probably going to have to mitigate wet lands, there are federal funds to help mitigate that wet land.

Mike said you've had time to go out into the county and take a look at several of our bridges have you not?

Joe said I looked at this one.

Mike asked where is it on your list of priorities?

Joe said near the top. I will have you a plan at your first meeting next month. This is near the top, it needs to be done.

Mike said top five or ten. So, this would be expensed out over the next 7-months out of cum bridge?

Joe said I believe it was do to be finished, I think next July.

Mike said that is when the draft would be done, July 1st.

Joe said most of that would be paid out between now and then.

Mike said it sounds like it is something we need to pursue. Two reasons, one is we might get it out of historic select and two is we know what were doing if we do have to go historic select. It would come out of bridge cum next year. Is this something we want to go ahead with?

Gary said I think this is the right direction to go in my opinion. To move forward with this approach, then were going to know where we stand. I'd rather do that than close it. Has anyone done a traffic study on that?

Mike Haffner said I've got a traffic study, I'll attach it. I'm not sure how old it is.

Mike said it's 300 South, 2 miles west of State Road 1.

Gary made a motion to take Joe's recommendation to move forward. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike Haffner said I have a question or request on funding. We've got a lot of stuff starting up on bridges and stuff. I'm concerned about funding with our federal aid projects that we've already committed to Community Crossings applications in the future. With an engineer on board wanting more money, I don't know where we're at on our commitment. I need to get maybe a meeting with Angela and Tom to discuss budgets because I don't know where were at and do we have the money in cum or not.

Mike said we'll get more Cum next year. If we had to pay for this today, I'd say we probably wouldn't have approved it today.

Mike Haffner said I'm okay with this smaller amount but Joe's got some bridges we want to do on our own money, we just need to get a game plan financially what we can do with our own funds or these projects we might have to have support of windmill. We need a joint meeting to understand where were at and what kind of commitments we have so we know where we're at. Tom would you be up for a meeting with me, Angela and Joe sometime. I'll get back to you but we need a game plan for what money we truly have and what other funds because we just got through committing some other funds on some windmill road stuff. I'd just like to have a game plan.

Mike said it was Short Street bridge that we committed windfarm funds to design the Short Street bridge.

Tom said it wouldn't hurt to have someone from the Council present too.

Karen Dillow – Promise Indiana update

Karen said this is my first time to address the Commissioner's. Thank you for your support of Promise Indiana. During 2021 a couple of big changes, the first is Carol Mills retired at the end of May and I was fortunate enough to work with her through part of April and all of May to learn as much as possible about this position. I still have her on speed dial occasionally to get her suggestion on things. The other is it has been rebranded from Randolph County Promise to Promise Indiana Randolph County. That took place because Indiana Youth Institute became the new convener for promise rather than the Walbath County YMCA. In talking to Cathy Stephen-Miller she said it's a better fit state wide, we have a better presence. Do to the rebranding they have completely redone our website and they provided a grant for promotional materials, what you have there in your hand. Hopefully you saw some of the art signs throughout the county this summer. We also have some banners, some business cards, we got a new table cloth that we have for when we set up a table at different locations. That was very nice that they provided that. This past May IU East prepared a virtual walk into my future for our third-grade students. Normally that's on campus but since the pandemic as we all know things have changed. It also provided the schools to do their walk into my future at their convenience, so the schools did it on different days. We unfortunately are not allowed to go into the schools to observe that because we were not appointed by the schools. This year we are going to be on campus, this next May at IU East for walk into my future on May 20th, that is scheduled to occur then. July, we set up a table at the 4-H fair and we distribute a lot of promotional materials. We encourage parents to enroll their children, we didn't have much luck with enrollment at the fair, which is understandable, they were there to enjoy their evening and show their animals. We did give out a lot of information. I prepared some step by step instructions on how to do that because a lot of people were not sure, once they opened up the website, what to do. In August I attended three of the back to school events, Carol Mills attended one for me, Lisa Jennings attended one. There were four in one night, so we had one school that one of us couldn't attend but we did set up a table with materials that people could pick up. Then in October I attended two of the parent teacher conferences, we did have some success at the parent teacher conferences in getting students enrolled. Starting in October and on into this month we've been doing the champions week, each school can decide which week they want. Five of the schools have now completed that, Monroe Central is doing theirs this week so that will wrap up. Then next month we go right into the reading service project and the students can do reading for so many hours or a service project for so many hours, the parents off that they did that and then the Community Foundation contributes \$5.00 per hour up to \$75.00 to those student's accounts. We do have a liaison in each of the county elementary schools. We have notice that not all of the elementary's are enrolling at the same level so obviously we have some liaison that are better proponents than others. We do have two new liaisons who are just kind of getting their feel of their jobs and being a new liaison. We're hoping that as time goes on that will improve. The pandemic has definitely had an affect on enrollment, we used to do enrollment when parents would come to the schools to register. All of the schools have now gone to online registration, they have put our Promise Indiana link on their website so we do have that there but unfortunately, I think as parents are going through their like wait this is a different website, this isn't the same as the school and so they kick back out of it. So, we are seeing trouble with that. I had a meeting week before last with the other coordinators from the other counties and IYI and everybody state wide is seeing a huge drop in the number of enrollments. It doesn't seem to matter whether you use online or paper. Some tried paper first and it didn't work, so they switched to online, they found out that didn't work either. We switched this year from paper and pencil to online only. Nobody

seems to have the magic recipe for making that improve. I did find that there was an issue when IYI created the websites that it wasn't really easy to use for people who aren't computer savvy. The link to enroll your child was at the very top of the page and probably the smallest print there was on the page so parents were bypassing it and going down to the quick links, the quick links took them directly to college choice. So, they were enrolling their children in college choice 529 accounts but not through promise. We are in the process of trying to get those accounts sub tied to Promise Indiana and I'm not sure what since I'm new how long that process takes but they are aware that we have several parents who went through that. I gave a warning to other coordinators from other counties you might want to also provide this. What we did was provide quick links through promise so that they could see that. As of October 1st, this year 480 Randolph County students have a college choice 529 account through Promise Indiana, this is approximately 40% of the counties third through sixth grade students. Of those enrolled 149 or 31% are making regular contributions. I've been in contact with College Choice and IYI about setting up a meeting for parents, about how to use their account and we hope to schedule that for second semester. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

Mike asked does the champion week, is it available to the sixth graders that are participating as well or is it just available to new accounts?

Karen said it is just available to third graders typically. This year because and last year because we had so few students sign up last year that this year Cathy and Lisa said lets open champions week to third and fourth graders. So, for this one year, we are allowing third and fourth graders to do champions week. Then our plan next year is to go back to third graders. Then fourth graders have the reading service challenge. We have not planned things for sixth graders, as they continue to age through. One idea Cathy did mention was possibly this meeting with parents about how to use their account, talking to the sixth-grade parents because they've had their accounts now for three years, if they're not contributing, maybe that's why maybe they don't know how to do that or what to do. That is one of our brainstorming ideas at this point.

Mike ask does the Community Foundation have a 529 Promise Indiana fund that citizens can contribute to.

Karen said yes, we do and we do receive contribution to that.

Matt Wirth, Bryan Martin, Tom Griffey, Steve Brock – Losantville/Modoc project

Matt said were here with a very important mission today. I am a Business Development Manager for Common Wealth Engineering. We have been assisting both of these communities for well over a year now in trying to obtain funding and improve their waste water system. As you know Modoc has its own treatment plant, however it's now facing some challenges and needs some help. Losantville has some issues with their septic systems in terms of some failing septic's and just the willingness and the foresight I think to try to figure out how to do a collection system. Modoc needs the increase flow to help their plant. As you know better than anyone how close the towns are although they are separated by several miles, regionalization in that part of the county could occur with both of these sewer projects coming to fruition. To their credit both of these communities have sought out almost every grant dollar and every dollar they can for both small towns. They realize both of these projects are going to be very expensive and

both towns are very concerned about keeping their user rates as low as possible but realizing the cost of the projects, the rates will be a little bit. It's our job to make sure they don't go up way too much. With that I've got representatives here, we have a great showing from both communities and if you guys want to introduce yourself.

David said I'm David Sexton, I'm the Treasurer of Modoc.

Tom said I'm Tom Griffey, President for Modoc.

Carol said I'm Carol Weaver, Clerk-Treasure for the Town of Losantville.

Harvey said Harvey Wright, Town Board of Losantville.

Kim said Kim Ring, Vice President of Losantville Town Board.

Matt said everyone thought it was very important to be here. I believe each of you received a letter from each unit outlining the project, the project scope, what it's going to take to move things forward and with that I'm going to go ahead and first of all if you have any specific questions for either of the towns, we also have our rate consultant here. Both communities have retained the same rate consultant Mr. Steve Brock, he's helped prepare the numbers. He is doing a rate analysis to again make sure as I said we're going to buy down these rates as much as possible. In the request you have in front of you will help do that in terms of using some of your American Rescue Plan dollars, the ARP money that you received from the Cares Act. With that if you have any questions for each of the towns, but I would like Steve to discuss the financing piece, that's very important.

Steve said I will just give you a general overview, Modoc has a sewer system, Losantville does not and needs one. The Modoc system can be expanded to service Losantville. Expensive projects, the Modoc is like \$8.5 million and the Losantville project is about \$5 million. These are small communities, the user fees in Modoc are currently very high at 4000 gallons, this is what IDEM says is typical for a residential user on a monthly basis, the bills about \$100.00 per month. If we don't get additional grant assistance in Modoc those user fees could go up to \$230.00 per month, those are ridiculous user fees. We're looking at every avenue we can for grant money and that means we've got to come to you also because as we go to the state and the other state agencies look for grant money they turn us around and say have you talked to your County Council, have you talked about American Rescue Plan money and we have to tell them that we've talked to you and it helps to hear if you can help us and if you can't. Losantville is a special problem and that is that they don't have a sewage system right now, your attorney will tell you that there is a state law that says that an unsewered community can't charge anything for sewer service until construction starts today, that is shovel hitting the dirt. So, to be able to get this project started and to be able to apply to these funding avenues that are going to be available next year, like the new SWIFT program which is the states ARP money, Rural Development, State Revolving loan fund and OCRA, we need the project to be under design. The only way that can really happen is to get money from the county and that can be loan that we can pay you back. However, if the project doesn't move forward there's no way to collect money to be able to pay you back and that is kind of the problem that we have in trying to borrow money on the

open market because we can't guarantee that we can pay that money back. The American Rescue Fund money can be used for water, waste water and broadband infrastructure, so these are certainly projects that you can use your American Rescue Fund money for and we're here to ask you to consider giving money to help these projects buy down their user fees so we can use these other state agencies to get additional money. If we go to these agencies and say the county doesn't consider this an important project, it's hard for us to convince the state agencies that this is an important project they should give their money to.

Matt said that leaves ample time for the Commissioner's to ask specific questions of any of us. Or if either community would like to say anything about how important this is.

Tom Griffey said I got on my board because there are a lot of good people in town that couldn't afford or on a fixed income or have a lot of children who couldn't afford to pay it, that's why I got on the board to try and correct this. Not getting on board, the deck we have on the septic treatment plant, I was there to work when other people were trying to bring our expense down. I went to the state all this to get help and they told me to figure it out. This time were trying to do it where the whole point is to try and bring it down where it's feasible to live in the Town of Modoc. We got the three-month renters that are in and out, then we've got to put liens on properties. If we could bring this down where it's cost effective for everybody to live here I think the town would come back like it used to be years ago. With Losantville coming on with all the houses, that's just more customers and if they go with a district in it that's just more people and it will help Losantville cost where they're not paying what we've had to pay since 2008. We're trying to do all this correctly to bring it all down. When they come to work on the septic treatment plant we'll looking at \$4.8 million to upgrade it from 2008 to 2021 and that's an expense I wasn't planning on being that high for no longer than it's been there to redo to bring the extra in. That's why were trying to get all we can get to try to bring it to where we don't have the debt that we had on this in 2008 and make the town dive further in the hole. It's going to get to the point, if we can't bring this down, we're going to forfeit on it. I can't get the people to pay their bills. That's why I'm here and what I've been working on. You got to make it where people can live.

Mike asked the Modoc project of \$4.9 million, that improves Modoc's but also increases to handle Losantville?

Matt said correct.

Mike asked then Loganville's \$8.5 million is to be able to improve theirs to attach to Modoc.

Matt said keep in mind, improve nothing right now. They don't have any right now.

Mike said but it is still not its own system.

Matt said it is its own collection system and then it is pumped to Modoc.

Mike said so basically \$5 million is collection.

Matt said that is putting in a brand-new start from scratch collection system in the entire Town of Losantville.

Meeks asked is it going to be a wastewater district after this?

Matt said I don't think we've gotten that far yet. I think that is probably the way it could move, yes at some point but right now it's going to be both towns working together. We're working on an interlocal agreement for the two towns to review.

Carol said the Town of Losantville is trying to be proactive because they do not have a sewer system and we have septic issues that we are going to be facing in the near future and were trying to avoid a serious issue if we can get on top of it. We do want the system in because we want our community to grow. It would be ideal to tie in with Modoc and not have to do a whole system our self. It would be best for both communities to work together and make our area of the county grow and we are anticipating annexing to make our area grow. Again, we are going to be proactive, get ahead of the game here, get on board and help Modoc, Modoc help us and work together as two communities.

Tom asked do you know if the engineering, is this going to go down the highway, if it's going to go back roads?

Matt said we haven't got that far just yet.

Tom said I just wonder about all the people on the highway.

Matt said we are going to look at that.

Carol said that has been brought up and considered, how many other people could be part of that.

Matt said obviously the more the better to buy down the cost. But at some point, we are going to have to say, we've got to draw a line and start. There are several areas out there that could probably stand to hook on.

Tom asked have you had any discussion with Bestway and also Indian Trail Lake, where are they at in this project?

Tom Guffey said I talked to Danny and before we ever break ground, I've got to meet with them again and what their talking about is, their running seven trucks five days a week hauling to Richmond and he said if we can get the cost down enough, see what the new dryers are going to do at the landfill, he deals in 18 mega gallons a year, that what I'm trying to do is I'm not getting them to lock in but if you could make it when we break ground to go ahead and bring that to me and then if he decides he wants to come at their expense. Indian Trail, we had a meeting two years ago with Indian Trail because they are not good at all with their septic system right now. I'm trying to get them on as well but right now their back stepping and I'm trying to push before we get this started it could all work into one deal and their trying to get away from it. Scott's working hard to try to push them into this because now's the time to do it before we start this

project. If I could bring them on and Losantville on and the people between Losantville and the Landfill, I'm telling you, we will all be setting really good on the cost of this for everyone. I keep in contact with Danny quite often on that, actually he talked about putting five and the landfill donated \$5,000.00 to do the study on what the treatment plant can handle. We can actually handle them now but they want us to upgrade to the 2021 codes compared to what it was when they built it in 2008. That's where the expense of updating it came in. It's got to be updated before Losantville can come because we're bringing in so many more customers.

Tom asked didn't you say you oversized it when you built it?

Tom Guffey said the initial plan was it was planned for Losantville and Modoc both and Losantville and it should have never happened but it happened, it's their problems and that's what we been fighting since 2008, so I was thankful whenever Losantville contacted us. I actually went out and talked to them at Indian Trail and the landfill. The landfill alone could really help me a bunch but their looking at the cost because we had to do an analysis back four years, we had to provide that to the state. We've done all the work of getting it where they can do it. Danny said their figuring if I can get my dryers to do the work why go to the expense of going to Modoc. That's just kind of a wait right now but I will start pressuring harder once everything starts falling into place that now's the time to do it. I really think they will do it in time.

Mike said Losantville's request is \$1 million and then in the bold print it's \$750,000.00. Your town needs at least \$750,000.00.

Steve said the \$750,000.00 is what we need to start the design. We're asking for \$1 million. Five hundred thousand dollars from this year's American Rescue Fund money and \$500,000.00 from next years American Rescue Fund money. To be able to not only fund the design but part of the other preconstruction costs that go with that. But we absolutely need for Losantville, design cost or we can't get started with the design and won't be eligible to apply for the other money next year.

Mike asked what is the time line on that?

Steve said the engineers have to be under design probably by the first of the year. The SWIFT program has an application July 15, 2022 and that is the last half of the states American Rescue Fund money that was designated for water and waste water project. We want to get in on that, to be able to give them that this year, they said that you have to be able to represent to them that you can close a loan for the loan portion of it and start construction by the end of the year. If we aren't under construction, not designed by January, there is no way we are going to be able to close a loan at the end of 2022. We won't be able to represent to them in July that we'll be able to and won't be eligible for the SWIFT funds. There are other programs we are looking, we're looking at Rural Development, we're looking at the state revolving loan fund, we're looking at OCRA. We are going to need all of these and county help as well to be able to buy these expensive projects down to affordable user fees that will allow people to want to come in and build and expand these communities and hopefully have some economic development in this part of the county. You talk about the other areas that have needs there, once we get this system

established, once we get these up to spec, we'll have enough capacity, we can add on additional areas that maybe are not in this part of the project. Like Indian Trail and Bestway, there may be other areas that can come on. As the engineers start design, they'll look at these different alternatives and see which ones are the most cost affective and usually it's bringing in the most people which makes it the most cost effective. To circle back to your specific answer, we need at least \$750,000.00 for Losantville to get it under design.

Mike said and Modoc's time line?

Steve said they are both on the same time line. Modoc has to be built so that they can build the line in, to be treated. We won't be able to get funding for Losantville if the Modoc line isn't on the same time line.

Matt said these almost have to go simultaneously to make them work. There is very little room for error on either side.

Mike asked Gary or Tom do you have any questions?

Gary said I have been to a number of their meetings when they've discussed this, both Modoc and Losantville. I understand their situation, I understand their expense, I guess Tom and Dave, their board have talked about their financial situation with their sewage every since I have been a Commissioner. They have worked through the years at least keeping their heads above water, sometimes barely. It's been a real struggle because of the way it was designed and the expense of it because it was being designed for a much larger operation. It needs to be done. The financing on your part is going to be a real challenge although with the SWIFT money and some of this other funding options that you have is going to be hopefully a potential buy into the program but that is yet to be seen. That is a fund that you haven't had in the past to look at.

Mike asked how many customers do you have now in Modoc.

Tom said 67.

Mike asked how many potential customers will Losantville have on this.

Carol said close to 130.

Tom asked how many Modoc customers did you have when you built it?

Tom said about 70 to 74.

David said when we built the project we went down to about 60 something, it went down, we're just now starting to come back a little bit.

Mike said with the ARP funds, we are required to develop plan of distribution is the best way to put that and we have decided that we are going to develop that plan in conjunction with County Council and we need to do that. One of the things that is not on the agenda but is part of the

other, the Auditor mentioned to me earlier this morning, that we should talk about having our attorney start the boiler plate language of that plan and then the county can fill in how we want to spend this money. At this time, I would recommend we take this project under advisement and discuss it as part of our plan and see what we can fund and how much we can fund it. That is all I can leave you with today. We do have a little less than \$5 million in our funds.

Matt said as Steve said it can obviously split in this year and next year, if that helps. At the end of the day, it's still a million dollars.

Gary said the other thing as far as funding, I think we've talked about this before. We have windfarm income and the solar income and Union Township has just acquired another 50 units in the township. I don't know how much of the solar is completed. I've talked to them, a couple weeks ago, it was supposed to be done this week. I think they're getting close. When they're finishing up a section their putting it online. Part of that is already in operation. I think these are other funds that need to be considered for this project particularly since you people are in that area. You have gotten several new roads, I think we ended up with over 28 mile of newly paved roads in that area which counts for \$4.2 million or there about.

Tom said probably closer to \$5 million if we were going out and bidding the project.

Gary said that's helped you greatly too. But I think from my perspective I think the wind farm and solar, we need to look at that first and then look at the ARP funds that we now have available to us second.

Tom said I assume you have talked to EDPR about this also, Modoc and the next project is going to be close to town. I assume you have made them aware of your needs here also.

Tom said they have been at our meeting twice. Alan McCormick is more concerned about it, he calls three times a week. It's important to me that he's content but he's worried about the town being content.

Meeks said if you don't mind, I don't want to speak for the Council, I know at least in my mind, probably is important at the end of the day what the relationship is between Modoc and Losantville contractually or whatever. I had been involved with an issue in Portland that was a real mess because I'm not sure it was thought through before they put the infrastructure in. When their asking me, I would probably tell the Council that's probably a very important piece to it. If it's a district, if it's a contract, if it's whatever, that's probably a big piece. You guys might want to.

Mike said Gary makes a good point, windfarm or solar farm funds could very well be used for this but that is also a Council and Commissioner's decision so we would be discussing that all at the same time.

Matt said we will get the interlocal agreement.

Tom said it's good to see everybody here talking with each other.

Carol said I think it is important to say that we are all on the same track and all want the same end results.

Steve ask how would it be beneficial for the Commissioner's and Council for us to continue, should we start showing up at all the Commissioner and Council meetings?

Mike said it would be valuable for you to show up at the next Council meeting, which would be the first Tuesday in December.

Matt said basically give them the same overview?

Mike said yes. They are going to be as big a part of this decision as we are.

Steve asked would it be beneficial for us to show up at you budget meeting, when you get together to decide how you are going to spend the American Rescue funds?

Mike said I don't think so. But I can't tell you not to, it's a public meeting.

Brandan Wright and Adam Wilson – Cyber Security

Brandan said I am going to go over the Cyber Security questions and answers, I know Adam went over them at the last meeting, I just want to make sure we're all on the same page. It looks like for your data backups, they want those done weekly and prefer daily. We already do those daily for you, there's no problem there. Backups are being replicated on the barracuda cloud for the barracuda appliance. Currently the backups are not being tested but we can plan on that, we can choose which servers to test and the frequency of those tests, so that shouldn't be a problem in the future for us to do. The IT system patching, we currently do those patching's through a service called automate. The biggest issue that we have is coming into the multifactor authentication. We currently don't have that for anything yet, but with the new change over from your current email system over to office 365, we're going to get that enabled for you. Then remote access multi factor authentication, that's really the only cost, there's a system called duo, its an app that you can put on your cell phone or you put it on computer, those are \$10.00 per user per year. I think Adam is trying to get with the Sheriff right now to see how many users that we have. We obviously don't want to pay more than we have to. That will also work for your cloud access and your admin access. Incident response plan, Five Star has templates of incident response plans that we can form for the county. We can just go off that template and make it specific to your county. Then the end point protection, we currently are switching over to SOFO. We will get that installed in the next week or so. Really our summary for this you have most of this stuff in place for your Cyber Security Insurance, the only thing that we are really lagging behind in is that multifactor authentication and like I said with email, once we get Office 365 up and running we can start enabling that multifactor authentication which is going to help with your phishing attacks. Your people forgetting passwords, shouldn't happen anymore because they have to say this is me logging in. The only cost to you will be for that remote access, cloud access, admin access, multifactor authentication. The biggest difficulty that we always have with any client is getting user buy in especially multifactor authentication because it is an extra step that people have to take to get logged in, it's an inconvenience to them. That's

really the biggest push back that we always get from every client but it's also one of the biggest security steps that you want to put in. Especially for email it's free, it doesn't cost you a thing, it's just an extra step that makes it a little cumbersome to log in. For safety concerns we recommend it. We also ask that instead of it coming from Five Star to be force on users, we asked that it come from the Commissioner's, saying we would like to get these security measures in place so that we're not fighting end users. We just ask that we have your support in making some of these security changes. Which I think you have helped Adam along the way with this and I am sure Adam is very appreciative as well. We just want to make you as secure as possible.

Mike asked does the users vary between six, seven and eight?

Brandan said between the multifactor authentication, no that would be one license.

Mike said for everybody in the county that has an email address, is that what we're looking at?

Adam said what we're really talking about is Spillman, which is the software that the Sheriff's use and their access to that software when they're not here in the building. So anytime that squad cars log in, anytime you have Parker City, Richmond logs into our Spillman, all these different towns log in they use that VPN access to log in and when they do that it's not secure because we went in on the back in and looked at how many users we've created for different people. There were over 300 of them. I know we don't have 300 people that need them. So, we need to go through and figure out how many we actually need and figure out how many we need to purchase. Right now, if we go on what we have it's going to be way too much money for us to spend and we don't need to spend that much.

Mike said these ten things are basically what we were told to do to get Cyber Insurance, overall other than number 3 which I don't know what kind of expense is going to be coming with that on testing basis.

Brandan said the testing basis is just us setting it up and making sure it works. There is no extra purchase with that.

Adam said time line is really the thing we are talking about here. How long is it going to take to implement each of these things. When we talked about it at our last meeting. I said and I stick with it, you can only push so much stuff at users at once, that's new and you can only do so much work at once on your network without breaking it. I've got to get to a stable point before I move on to the next thing. It's just irresponsible to try to change a bunch of stuff and try to fix it all at once.

Mike said if the Sheriff is working with you on who the users are, it sounds like he's not opposed to the extra step.

Adam said he's not thrilled about it.

Mike said if it doesn't interrupt service to the community.

Adam said just like we spoke at the last meeting, it's something we need to work together on to come up with a solution that works both ways.

Mike said I would hope that if we are working in that direction maybe our insurance agent can get us a quote to at least show evidence that we are moving in the right direction and they would quote us insurance but that is yet to be determined. I wouldn't know why we wouldn't want to go ahead with, we've got all but three. Six, seven and eight. I wouldn't know why we wouldn't want to go ahead with those at this point in time. Make that official and then maybe Jentry can say to the carrier that we have approved to do that and we're doing it, it just hasn't happened yet. As we discussed last meeting, the remote access will be pretty seamless and quick for the deputies.

Adam said when we go to enforce multifactor on this network for the Sheriff's Department and other places, where do we stand as far like decision making goes and legality with who makes decisions in the county for that equipment and for those rules?

Meeks said it would probably depend. If it is in the Sheriff's Department, it is probably going to be the Sheriff.

Mike said if the Sheriff says he wants it to go this way, I don't know if I am in a position it shouldn't, even if I could. Are you looking at equipment that would go in the vehicle?

Adam not equipment that we put in, the equipment that is already there should have multifactor on it. We haven't crossed that bridge yet but all of their stuff is connected to all of our stuff, so it is all one big network. If he wants to have a different set of rules then what you have then we will have to do something to separate those networks.

Mike said I was under the understanding that he didn't want a different set of rules, he was willing to work with it as long as you don't have to look at your phone and type in a code number. There is a better way to do it that would not interrupt the deputy's duties.

Adam said I think it is ambiguous at the moment would be the correct word to say where we are at.

Mike said I would say move ahead. Keep going in the right direction. We need the Cyber Insurance and the Cyber Insurer's tell us we need this. In order to get Cyber Insurance, we need to at least move ahead and resolve any differences of how we do it.

Adam asked are we covered right now?

Jentry said it is going to expire on the 19th.

Mike said we have four days to get it.

Jentry said I've got it in the works right now, I'm expecting an indication early this week. Is there any sort of action you can take to bind that before the next public meeting? I hate to say that because I don't want to say our price and be totally off too.

Meeks said you can give Mike the authority to sign it.

Mike asked what is our premium now for Cyber Insurance?

Jentry said the expired premium was around \$7,500.00.

Mike asked what did we get for that?

Jentry said it was first- and third-party coverages. It was pretty comprehensive, ransom ware, which is our most popular paid up claim.

Mike said from your experience, what would you say the premium will be on the renewal?

Jentry said it is not going to be a deal, it's probably going to be up 30%.

Tom said ten grand or so?

Jentry said I am thinking ten or fifteen.

Mike said fifteen would be 50%. I guess we could give one of us the authority to enter into an agreement with Jentry and his carrier, not to exceed a premium of X.

Meeks said the problem if it's over X and you need it.

Jentry said I am fully expecting it today or tomorrow.

Gary said we've got to have it I will make a motion to move forward with this and give Mike the authority to sign on behalf of the Commissioner's once we have an agreement, so that it is enacted before our policy expires on November 19th. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mayor Bob McCoy

Bob said if you are interested in getting rid of that historic bridge, we may be interested in it.

Other Business:

Ken Hendrickson, Randolph County Sheriff

Ken said no business.

Regular Claims \$518,636.02

Gary made a motion to approve the regular claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$ 221,527.52, 224339.63

Gary made a motion to approve the payroll claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tax Refund Claim \$989.66

Mike said this tax refund claim is for an overpayment by the claimant.

Gary made a motion to approve the tax refund claim as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County United Claim \$18,467.67

Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$2,365.67

Gary made a motion to approve both the Randolph County United claim and the Tourism claim as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

MPX Claim \$27,000.00

MPX Claim \$9,628.15

Pyramid Claim \$4,000.00

Pyramid Claim \$233.28

Pyramid Claim \$2,280.00

Pyramid Claim \$8,000.00

Rex Collins Electric claim \$11,122.00

Mike asked do we still want to continue to table these?

Gary said yes.

Mike said we are still unresolved. Are you okay to table these Tom?

Tom said yes.

MPX Change Order 03C-02

Mike said the MPX change order has not changed, it doesn't add up right and we don't know why we have it. I would say we continue to table it.

Cobalt Civil Change Order 31-03

Cobalt Civil Change Order 32F-02

Mike said we have the Cobalt Civil change orders for the Union City site. These are change orders which are a reduction of \$62,021.09 and \$19,486.00 which were Cobalt Civils reduction for doing the Union City tower. I would say these are appropriate are they not? Angela says they are, so I would agree with that.

Tom made a motion to approve these two change orders and authorize Mike Wickersham to sign on the Commissioner's behalf. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Minutes of 10-4-2021

Tom made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Gary seconded. All aye votes.
Motion carried.

Baker Tilly representation letter

Mike said the Baker Tilly representation letter indicates to Baker Tilly that we provided them everything we were required to provide them so that they could determine our lost revenue over the last fiscal year do to Covid. We need to approve this letter which we received a copy of via email.

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

Comp time reports

Mike said we received comp time reports via email. Any questions or comments?

Commissioner's 2022 Meeting schedule

Mike said we also received a copy of the Commissioner's meeting schedule for 2022. It looks like we have a couple Tuesdays on there this year. February 4th is a Tuesday and September 6th is a Tuesday.

Camp Slingshot (tabled from 11/1/21)

Mike said if you recall the YMCA had indicated that they would like to transfer Camp Slingshot and the property out there back to Randolph County.

Meeks said I talked to Jennifer last week. They have some personal property out there that they're going to dispose of. How I left it was when they are ready they should get a hold of you Mike. I'm getting the paperwork together now. It certainly sounded like it was going to be by January 1.

Mike said have they taken care of the water and issues like that?

Meeks said I will discuss that with them.

Mike asked can we ask you to send her an email to make sure that she secures the utilities out there so that we don't have any frozen pipes or anything.

Meeks said I will shoot her an email and copy you.

Mike said she indicated to me verbally that they planned to do that but I think we need to make sure it gets done. I would say after the first of the year, our priorities should be is what we want to do with that property that will become county owned again. Which would you know of any restrictions we'd have on it once we get it back?

Meeks said we didn't have any restriction on the infirmary so I cannot imagine that there are restrictions.

Meeks Cockerill

Meeks said I signed up on the opioid, did you get an email?

Mike said I have not gotten an email on the opioid settlement.

Meeks said I will check on that.

Tom Chalfant, EMT Director position, Windfarm and Solar Farm paving

Tom said our EMT Director is retiring the 26th of November. I talked with Duane and he thinks it's going to take more money to fill that position.

Mike asked have we posted the position?

Laura said no.

Mike said that is probably the first thing we should do is post the opening for the EMT Director. Would Duane without change of salary, would he continue for a short term as interim EMT Director?

Tom said I am pretty certain he would, I don't know what short term is?

Mike said I would say we would want to have a decision made by the end of the year. See what kind of applications we get and see what Council's opinion is about pay for that position. Which is one of the items I was going to talk about was the salary committee which I was told in passing who was on that committee, but it would be nice to know who was on that committee and get their contact information. No one has contacted me, so I think it may have been left to me to set the committee meeting. I am going to try and get that meeting set before our first meeting in December so we can have some discussion about that. Especially in light that I think the Sheriff is interested in that, the EMT is evidently not satisfied with the salary going forward and we can use ARP funding for salaries, we need to get something in place if we were going develop a plan for ARP funding. If I can get that I will try and get a meeting called.

Tom said I could give you an update on the paving. They should finish all of the paving on the windfarm tomorrow and hopefully by the end of the week on our extensions. We are going to go another 3 mile or so, so hopefully they will be done by the end of the week, weather permitting. Then hopefully by the end of the week starting on the solar farm, the work they want to do on the solar farm this fall. The weather has delayed them so hopefully this is going get done in the next week to ten days.

Gary Girton – Highway Department IT, Communication towers

Gary said the Five Star email that is going around about the expenses at the Highway Department for work being done. Has that been corrected.

Laura said I know Adam went out there and got Joe set up.

Mike asked Joe are you set up with a computer at the Highway Department?

Joe said yes, but no email yet.

Laura said I think he is waiting on the Office 360 to activate his email.

Mike asked do you have internet?

Joe said yes.

Mike asked do you have a backup email you can use until you get a county email?

Joe said I can use my personal email.

Mike said Laura just said they are waiting on 360 to set you up with an office exchange email. No reason to set you up on a Zimbra email and then switch it out in two or three weeks.

Gary asked we're not paying more for that work?

Laura said no because it was determined that Adam just had to go out there for a couple hours, we were not going to have to pay any additional.

Meeks said we pay them for 40 hours; the county gets 40 hours. The contract doesn't call for anything beyond that. If we need somebody else then we need to enter another contract.

Gary said J&K was at the jail and did some work, I know we ask Art to check with them about cooling that room. I didn't know if that was done.

Mike said I think we asked Chris to ask J&K.

Ken said I don't know what they decided.

Mike said we don't know if J&K is recommending it or not?

Ken said I do not know that.

Gary said on the towers J&K has worked on the repeater and the other work at Farmland. They worked in some of the buildings. I think all three of the buildings putting some stuff in, they worked at the jail and they're doing that work. On the 29th the climbers are supposed to be here and start on the south tower and move to the central tower and then the north tower. Then start up the system and then shut it down because we do not have licensing on it yet.

Mike said that is not good. That's the 4.3 equipment they are putting on in anticipation of getting the license.

Gary said I assume at least part of it is. That's a problem because I talked to John Shrew who is J&K's owner and I ask him about our licensing, if we had to sign any papers or doing anything with that as Commissioner, we have a meeting today and he said we don't even have it. He said

I talked to FCC a week ago and it had not been issued. I said we were told in September they would make a decision and that would be done. I said I assume which is a false assumption but I assumed it was taken care of. If you go back and look at Pyramids quote to us, they charged us \$25,000.00 for the FCC process.

Mike said they also told us it would be done in September. We got the exception to get it done so we could use the 4.3 microwave equipment, so now if the 4.3 equipment is installed and we don't get a license then we have to take it down and buy new equipment.

Gary said that is what I told John, before the 29th we need to know what is going on with the licensing because that's absurd for us to pay to have something put up and then take it down.

Mike asked do we have an answer to, you sent out the inspection spreadsheet and I'm hoping the fact that anchor bolts are not centered on the foundation, there's some fudge factor in setting those towers on that foundation, that meets with either the owners, meaning the manufacturer of the tower, the engineer on the project has said that, that's okay, it passes.

Gary said we don't have that information. You got the email I sent that I got from Brian Reece?

Mike said yes.

Gary said his suggestion and I talked to him again last week, he was going to be on a zoom meeting Friday with some other information but he was in Las Vegas and couldn't get free. Our come back is MPX put those up, they should be the ones to do it but then after we had different things that were suggested to be corrected by the climbers before we had them inspected. They went and did some work and said they were complete and ready to be finished. Then we get a statement from Pyramid saying that the towers are complete but yet these items haven't been corrected. According to protocol, we should go back to MPX and say you guys fix it but at this point to be frank I don't trust them.

Mike said I don't know how you would fix a foundation.

Gary said you may not have to. That goes back to engineering and making a decision if that bolt is to close to the edge of the concrete to structurally hold it.

Tom said the drainage is a problem out there, the water.

Gary said I don't understand, they took borings, I saw the truck in there taking borings. I don't know who or where that information went to on the borings.

Mike said that can be corrected.

Gary said we can correct it but there is another issue. Brian Reece is saying that he would be willing if we want to talk to him, he would give us a price of communicating with, because he does this regularly with the manufacturers and with their engineers and with the engineers that he has to determine what's right and what's acceptable, what can be done, what needs to be

corrected. He would work with us on that. He did tell me that on the phone when I talked to him.

Mike said I would think that either we contact Terry Burnworth to tell him that we want answers to these and maybe you've done that and not heard anything. Or we have Meeks contact Terry Burnworth and say we need these matters addressed.

Gary said most importantly now it the licensing before the 29th.

Mike said I understand that, your going to address that.

Gary said I'm not sure how we address it, we've asked for information from Pyramid before and we haven't gotten anything. Where was the people we hired to be on site and do the inspection and do all this and follow through and give us information on the licensing and so on. We've been paying for that but where is it. We stopped paying but we haven't stopped paying a lot, we've already paid them \$250 or \$260 thousand out of their \$300 thousand or so that they've billed us.

Mike asked has Pyramid seen this latest from Reece?

Gary said I don't know if I sent that or not.

Mike said it's pretty clear. We should send it to them and request a response by our next meeting.

Gary said we have to have it before the 29th. If we let those guys go up on those towers, weather permitting.

Mike said that is the license issue.

Gary said in my opinion everything should be in an email and we should get information back from all of it.

Mike said I think if we don't get a response then we ask our attorney to reach out to them. At this point in time I don't think it would help us to hire Reece to do that for us.

Gary said I agree. He has just offered that opportunity if we need it. The big thing is we have to know whether to tell J&K not to get these guys up on the tower on the 29th.

Mike said if the license is not forth coming, I'm not sure why we would want them up there. If we have an assurance that the license is forth coming.

Tom said assurance from who?

Gary said I talking to J&K Friday and he said he has been in communication with the FCC and according to his previous work with different clients. He had just been given this information

from Pyramid and said that is where they were and they were getting more and he was kind of waiting on them. When he didn't get anything, he contacted the FCC to see what he could do. He said he has done that in the past. He knows the channels to go through but he said there is not any available, and not one that had been issued as of last Monday. Being told that it was going to be approved by the FCC in a meeting in September, there was not a thumbs up or a thumbs down on it according to the information we are receiving.

Mike said the only thing I know to do is contact them and find out why and if they don't give us an answer then.

Gary said I will get a hold of John Shrew again and see if he's found out anything. He's contacting the FCC after I talked to him Friday. If he hasn't then I'll get a hold of Pyramid.

Mike Wickersham – NACO Renewal, Airport Board resignation, OSHA vaccination mandate

Mike said I received an invoice from the National Association of Counties, this is one we have been a member of in the past and this is a renewal invoice for \$523.00. Do we want to continue to be a member?

Laura said if your asking me, I say yes.

Mike said if the elected officials benefit from it then I would say we probably should renew.

Gary made a motion to approve the renewal of our NACO membership. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said I receive a letter of resignation from Mary Ann Lenkensdofer, she is going to resign her position on the County Board of Aviation as of December 31, 2021. If I recall her term doesn't expire until December 31, 2023. We also have Tyler Martin's term expiring at the end of December, 2021. Mary Ann is an R and Tyler is an R unless there is an objection, I am going to ask Tyler to see if he is willing to serve another 4-year term.

Tom said that is fine with me.

Mike said and then Bill Richmond's term either expires in 2022 or 2024 and then Conan Wallace would be the other one and I think Greg Sickels is 2023. The other thing I have come from the Association of County Commissioner's question, I've been questioning it too. Does the OSHA vaccination mandate apply to county government?

Meeks said that is a good question. I think no because I think we have our own OSHA.

Mike said if you would look into it.

Meeks said what I read was, first of all we don't know what these requirements are. Right now, there is a stay on those orders. I think Indiana is one of the states that follows the feds and so I

think the state legislature has to do something to have that requirement apply to county government.

Mike said can you do a little investigation to find out?

Meeks said when it gets a little bit closer.

Mike said it is going to be January 4th if it stands and our Attorney General hasn't joined the other states Attorney Generals trying to stop this thing.

Meeks said I think it might be because we don't have to. I'm on top of that.

Gary said we have set up an interview for the VSO Office.

Citizen Comments

None

Adjournment

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and signed this 22 day of February, 2022.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Chafert

Gary

ATTEST: *Laura J Martin*

Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County