

## Randolph County Commissioners

February 22, 2022

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 Vice President Tom Chalfant and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura J Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

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Tom Chalfant, Vice President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Robin Vickery – Request for grant application**

Tom said the first thing on the agenda is a grant for Community Corrections and this is a pass-through grant in the amount of \$218,700.00 for grant year 2023 for their operations.

Gary made a motion to accept the request to apply for this grant. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Duane Petry – Ambulance from ARPA, Farmland MOU &**

#### **\$1,000.00 out of Commissioner's professional fees, Ertel Health event**

Duane said we need to get another ambulance ordered. It's sixteen months before we take delivery once we get the order. We got two trucks, one with over 200,000 miles and another one with close to 100,000 so we need to get an ambulance ordered.

Tom asked the other ambulance, what's the status of it?

Duane said he thinks we may get delivery in June, he still doesn't have a definite date on it but he's shooting for June right now.

Tom asked is this one going to be the same price?

Duane said no, they've had big increases. I think the other one was around \$182,000.00 and ball parking it this morning he said probably \$220,000.00 and that's not counting \$20,000.00 for the load system and then possibly \$20,000 for a cot. So, we're up around \$260,000.00 probably. Winchester just paid a little over \$300,000.00 for a demo that they just got.

Tom asked is theirs equipped much different?

Duane said no, it's just a different manufacturer.

Tom asked is this money in your budget?

Duane said I talked to the Council and they were talking about using ARPA.

Tom said you would use the same process, the same people?

Duane said yes, and they've got Wheel Coach which is another ambulance manufacturer, they weren't in this program but I was going to check with him. He thought they were going to get back into it so if they're back into it I'll get pricing from both manufacturers and maybe save a little bit of money if Wheel Coach is back in there.

Gary made a motion to allow Duane to move forward with this, particularly with the time factor involved and the continuing rise in prices, it's not going to get any cheaper at least for a couple of years. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tom said go ahead and tell us about the \$1000.00 out of Commissioner's professional fees and housing the ambulance in Farmland.

Laura said he's housing his ambulance in Farmland, I have two copies of the MOU that need Commissioner's signature.

Meeks said did Farmland sign it?

Laura said yes, Farmland has already signed it. Then the \$1000.00, it's \$500.00 a month for rent to house it over there and Council has suggested we pay for that out of the Commissioner's professional fees so we need your approval for that.

Gary made a motion to approve the payment of \$1000.00 to Farmland for housing the ambulance for two months out of Commissioner's Professional fees. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tom said do you want to tell us about the Ertel Health event?

Duane said when Covid hit, we just had them set up here and just stay here. The Highway Department wants them to come back out there.

Tom said April 19 to the 21<sup>st</sup>?

Duane said yes. For them to tear down and set up to make the move is at least an hour out of their time. They've never charged before to change and go from one place to the other, so I need to check with them to make sure they are still not charging. I don't know if that is going to mess up their schedule.

Tom asked are they here for three full days?

Duane said yes.



Tom asked Mike do you think you guys could get free either the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> to come up to the courthouse for the Ertel event? Would that work out?

Mike Haffner said yes.

Duane said we could pick one morning where we could get all your guys scheduled, would that work out better?

Mike said yes, keep me in the loop.

Tom asked do you have anything else Duane, your still shorthanded I assume?

Duane said I did get some basic EMT's hired and that's helping out a lot. We're looking at the building situation in Farmland to get a permanent situation and Jake and I went over and looked at Williams Printing building. There's a guy considering buying that and he said he would rent us part of it. We went over and looked at it and Jake has looked at a couple of alternatives too so I'll let him tell you about this.

Jake said the Williams Printing building, there is a section of it that could be adapted to fit the ambulance needs possibly but there was a lot of negatives going in that direction to make that happen. Even getting in the building your looking at putting in new doors, ramp to get to the old loading dock area. There's no drain system in there so once we park an ambulance in there this time of year when it melts down there's no where to go with the waste water. The mechanicals need heavy updating plus there's a lot of building there, I'm not sure what the rest of that building would be used for. We were there with a Wagner representative, we just quizzed him on what our other options were and he said unfortunately in Farmland there's not really a whole lot of commercial real estate available big enough for what we need. There are some empty lots that can be bought to build on. Duane had mentioned that the Town of Farmland may have a lot that they would gift to the county if need be depending on what direction we were to go. My looking from the outside in, I think cost wise to build a new structure makes more sense than trying to rehab something in existence that's not there. I done some checking, a friend of mine just built a pole barn finished inside and out, cement, the whole thing the end of last year, it was a 56 x 40, 16-foot ceilings, he said with cement and everything the whole thing priced out at \$58,000.00.

Tom asked that was a commercial building?

Jake said it was a pole barn. Two overhead doors, electrical. He may have put water in it, I don't know all the logistics on it but just for the basic shell finished inside and out was \$58,000.00. This morning I went out and measured the four bays that they have, just the four bays for the trucks and it measures 56 x 30. So, it's actually a little narrower, so that gives us kind of an idea size wise of what we're looking at. Duane had mentioned he really just needs a place for two trucks and then the living quarter side of it, the day room, bedroom, bathroom and so forth. I also talked to Keith Pugh, he would be willing to entertain drawing something up for us if we go that direction and helping out however he can as well to get us the plans we need to pursue a project like this. I talked to Jack Hinty, his crew that he uses said they are booked all

summer but he could give some recommendations on crews that could do a project like this. He actually said he would be willing to help oversee that if need be for the county if we go that direction. I just tried to get some information together to see what your thoughts were.

Tom said the Fire Chief at Parker talked to me about putting another bay on their facility and that would work. Have you talked with Aaron Hammond?

Duane said I don't want to go to Parker. It's another four or five minutes to get south. I know they want us in there bad. He talked to the architect that built their facility and he said it would be \$100,000.00 for them to add on to put us in there. That puts us at the far side of the county and that is not really helping us as far as response times.

Gary asked would the square footage that Jake's talking about 56 x 40 x 16, would that be adequate, do you think?

Jake said it would be the four bays you have now but 10' deeper.

Duane said that would probably work.

Gary said that's a ball park figure we could work with.

Jake said it would give you an idea size wise and dollar wise.

Gary said the lot that Farmland is talking about does have water and sewage?

Duane said that's what they said.

Gary said their initial conversation with you was that they're willing to give that to the county?

Duane said that was my understanding.

Jake said we would want to look, the realtor thought the lot that we were talking about, there might be some flood plain issues in that area, so that would be something to look into.

Gary asked are there houses built around that?

Duane said yes.

Jake said it is not a heavy residential side of Farmland but there is housing in proximity.

Gary said it would have to be rezoned.

Duane said I don't think so. I think they said we were alright on that. I can check into it and make sure.

Gary said I think we should move forward with that, talk to the Town of Farmland and see if they're still thinking about it and try to come up with some contractors because we've only got a couple months left.

Duane said we've got about six weeks with the Fire Department.

Gary said they might be able to give a little on that.

Duane said I'll check with Farmland and check on that lot.

Gary said I think we need to get something together for next meeting if we can. Particularly looking at contractors. That could be the only factor in this.

Jake said I can check around and try to get some ideas contractor wise and availability.

Gary said get some estimates of cost based on what you're looking at. We'll have to have an architect because it's a public building. That will have to be done.

Jake said is that something you want me to do. Keith said he wouldn't be back in the office until Monday. He said let him know next Monday. Is that something you want me to have him try to get drawn up?

Gary said from my perspective I think we need to have a sketch of what he thinks would work and then we'll try to get a contractor in line. Because we're going to have to do something and if we're going to stay in Farmland, it looks like you've eliminated most of our other options short of building our own structure. Since times a factor, we've only got a couple months.

Laura asked if you are going to hire Keith, where do you want to pay for that from?

Gary said we're just asking for a sketch, so that won't be much.

Jake asked when is your next meeting so I can let Keith know for sure?

Gary said March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Tom said is there any opportunity to contract with anybody to cover those areas, no local fire departments that would be interested in trying to man a place or anything like that?

Duane said I know Parker wants to but they're not going to get the manpower to do it.

Tom asked is there anything else?

Gary said we are kind of between a rock and a hard place right now with everything that's happened since the first of the year.



## Greg Beumer & Art Kirtly, Lynn Town Council – Water utility improvement project funding

Greg said I would like to introduce Art Kirtly who is the president of the Lynn Town Council. We're here this morning to ask the consideration of the Commissioner's for the \$150,000.00 either grant or loan combination that would pay for preliminary engineering design for a water project in the town of Lynn. This project is going to cost approximately \$2.5 million and will include the replacement of the water tower in Lynn that this is the centennial year, the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the construction of the old water tower that's up there. It would also include replacement of water sections of horrible water main on Main Street which is US 27. There are some sections as short as the length of a football field that have as many as 20 patches where they have had main breaks over the last five or six years. It's a badly needed project, we're just here to ask for your consideration much of the same way as, it's the same scenario as what Modoc, Losantville and the L&M Water District had. They need to have preliminary engineering design done by May 1<sup>st</sup> so that they can submit an application for loan and grant funding from the state revolving fund, SRF and then we also will be submitting a \$700,000.00 grant to the OCRA, Indiana Office Of Community and Rural Affairs. We're here to try to answer some questions and basically wanted to get this request in front of you for consideration.

Gary said I don't have any, I just know from the different conversations we've had over the last year or two, the meetings I've attended, I know there is a need there.

Art said I just took a look at the water tower the other day and, the base of it the cement, the footers are crumbling. It's breaking up and there's a lot of rust on it.

Gary asked do you remember when it was built?

Greg said 1922. I think we all know that that water tower survived the tornado that hit Lynn, took down the school directly across the alley. So, it's seen its better day and it's served the town well. I did forget to mention that the current water tower is 100,000-gallon tank and they are going to increase that to 150,000-gallon, it will add a little more pressure but more significantly it will help provide additional fire protection in that area. The town, we looked at their finances and as far as coming up with \$150,000.00 to pay for this preliminary engineering so they're eligible for grant funding from SRF, they don't have the money and so we're just coming to you, we're not asking for all grant but would certainly take that but if this were in some form of a grant/loan combination much like the other communities have had that would be appreciated as well.

Tom said do you think you can get all the other funding once this get's through the planning process?

Greg said the state revolving fund, yes has tremendous resources right now as far as money that they are going to be granting and loaning to communities for projects just like this. So yes, I think if we can meet that May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline of submitting our paperwork, the engineer feels that based on the need will score and rank very highly with SRF and I think we will score very highly with OCRA and that's a \$700,000.00 grant. The total project cost is about \$2.5 million.

Gary said I think that looks positive but I think I would rather wait until the first of the month when Mike gets back and make a final decision and give us a little time to think about it and get your name on the docket for the Council the following day. If we would happen to take funds from a source that they would have to approve you could get it done in a couple of days if we both approved it.

Greg said that sounds good to me. I'm assuming much like the other communities that if the Commissioner's approve them the next day we would want to be on the Council schedule.

Tom said yes.

Greg asked Laura is that something you could put us on and if we don't need it on Tuesday we will just cross it off.

Laura said yes, I will have you on there.

Greg said I apologize, I did talk to Mike about this. Art do you have anything you want to add?

Art said no.

Greg said gentlemen, thank you very much, we have planted the seeds and if there is anything we can do to answer questions between now and then you know how to get a hold of us.

**Joe Copeland – Amended LPA contract, SJCA additional cost, Funding for bridge 173, INDOT DocuSign requirement/Resolution 2022-05**

Joe said we will start with bridge 173. That particular bridge, Mike had already gotten a box culvert put in there.

Tom asked this is the one on 1000 South?

Joe said the culvert is the one on 1000 South that failed east of State Road 1. 173 is on 400 South west of State Road 1. It's a little structure, it's about 22.5 feet long. Mike had planned on replacing it with an aluminum box. So, if I can go ahead and replace that structure with a steel structure.

Tom said the funding is going to take extra funding, outside your budget.

Joe said yes.

Tom said this would be a request for windfarm money?

Joe said yes sir.

Mike Haffner said just for your understanding, yes, we've got some money but we're using highway money this year to fund 159 over on 500 so above and beyond his budget that's all coming out and at a later date I'm going to bring it to you and the Council, it might be in the next



meeting to appropriate \$300,000.00. We've got a balance in our 1173 so I'm going to move \$300,000.00 from 1173 into our bridge line and 1173 so he can do 159 this year. And then the following year, depending on how much we can afford we have another bridge 183 that we're looking at using partial highway funds on that. I'm planning on taking two of them out of the highway funds but this 173 we're asking for wind mill. We're not coming each and every time for wind mill, we're trying to do what we can out of the highway. We just got a lot of bridges on the hit list immediately and we can just do what we can.

Gary asked what is your total need for 173?

Joe said \$300,000.00.

Gary said total?

Joe said yes, that's everything.

Tom said you hope it will be less.

Mike Haffner said we've got a lot of soil piled up from the antenna behind. So, I told him we will use all that. Hopefully we won't have to buy anything, just utilize what we've got.

Gary made a motion to move forward with windfarm money to finance bridge 173 at a max of \$300,000.00.

Angela said the windfarm money after the water projects is down to \$280,000.00. You only have \$280,000 for the rest of this year on the first windfarm, you still have a little bit left from Next Era. I just wanted to let you know the first windfarm does not have \$300,000.00.

Mike Haffner said that will get him close enough, if he needs \$20,000.00 then we'll figure it out using highway funds.

Gary said this year we're getting Headwater's I, Headwater's II and Solar.

Angela said that is Headwater's I, that would make it gone. You've got Headwater's II and Solar.

Gary said I will reduce my motion to a max of \$280,000.00. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Laura said that will also have to go before Council on March 8<sup>th</sup>. I will put you on that agenda.

Joe said the next item is for the bridge inspection contract amendment. The state has come back and said there are additional requirements for load ratings for these bridges and everybody throughout the state has to do the same thing. Our consultant, SJCA said it will be an addition of \$9,845.00 but the state will reimburse us 80%, so our net cost is \$1,969.00. We don't have much choice it's required.



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

Joe said the last item is INDOT now is using what they call DocuSign, the problem is they want to know exactly who's signing the documents, whether it's one person, two people, three people it doesn't make any difference, I have to submit to them who will be signing the agreements. They will contact them either by email or phone. But I need something from the Commissioner's to say who will be doing the signing.

Laura said we did a resolution that Commissioner's will approve today and that will make it so Mike Wickersham can go online and sign.

Tom read the Resolution.

#### RESOLUTION 2022-05

#### A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MICHAEL WICKERSHAM TO SIGN DOCUMENTS

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners ("Board") has determine that Michael Wickersham the president of the Randolph County Commissioner may sign documents that would legally bind Randolph County, Indiana including any document requested by the Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT").

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board that Michael Wickersham the president of the Randolph County Commissioner may sign documents that would legally bind Randolph County, Indiana, including but not limited to any documents required by INDOT.

Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-05. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe said I have requested proposals for a large culvert inventory, 6 foot and up. Those will be do this Friday and I plan to get them out to you for review before your next meeting. I will make a recommendation at your next meeting and figure out dollars, where it's going to come from.

Tom said these are all of our culverts 6 feet and larger and their condition?

Joe said yes, and certain ones that are deteriorated let's say box culverts will be load rated so if need be we can post a load limit on them. Then there will be a list of those culverts and recommended replacement 1,2,3,4,5 right down the list.

Tom said it sounds like a little bit of pocket change.

Joe said yes, it's not cheap but it's pretty valuable.

Gary said it sounds like a necessity.

Joe said you don't want somebody falling through a culvert.

Tom said hopefully this will take away some of the surprises in the future that we get when these things fail on us. It will give us some planning.

Joe said yes, we can start getting some of those replaced.

Tom said this is one of the reason's we hired you Joe, your doing a good job.

Joe said I'm trying to.

Gary asked do you have any idea of how many there are of those?

Joe said I had counted from an inventory that Ed had gave me, roughly 358. Some of them our pipes and pipes are pretty easy. But these concrete box culverts, some of them are 16- or 18-foot long openings. They could go pretty quick, like the one on 1000 South.

Mike Haffner said that is the reason you don't want to commit a lot of highway funds on bridges because when we do get this small structure inventory, what's the changes out of 358 structures that a handful of them is going to need immediate replacement. We have to keep some money in reserve.

Tom said usually you can't put two or three pipes into replace these, that's not a viable option.

Joe said it's a maintenance nightmare, if your going to do it the way I look at it, do it right.

Mike said some of these channels are low and, on a pipe, you have to have a certain amount of coverage to make that last.

Tom said anything else?

Mike said I would like to announce that the Highway office administrator Erin gave a 30-day notice today. Naturally we go through the process again. I was thankful she gave us more than two weeks. I didn't know what the process, naturally we will get this posted and advertised as soon as possible but if one of the candidates that applied for it the first time around is possibly interested, do you want to try to pursue this to turn this around quicker? How much advertising?

Meeks said we always advertise, talk to Paula. I a person wants it, then have them resubmit their application.

**Adam Wilson – Carroll Electric quote**

Tom said Adam is not here, we will table this.

**Other Business:**

**Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff**

Art said I just have a quick couple of updates. Salyer Taylor started yesterday putting the air conditioner in that room. I'm hoping we have everything done by the end of the week. The other thing is the quote on the door. I haven't received any other quotes, we only have the one from Polly Jail which was the \$21,000.00 quote. If I don't get anything over the next couple of weeks by your March meeting, I'm not sure we shouldn't start moving forward with doing something with that door. Again, that would be up to you guys. Other than that, I don't think we have anything going on at the jail, we're still plugging away with stuff and doing what is supposed to be done. I know we've got the application process starts the beginning of March, I'm hoping to have the merit list completed by the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> of March so that we can fill the open road position. I would share with you that we still have two open jail positions that I have no qualified applicants for. I think we turned over 9 last year and we turned over two or three this year.

**Minutes of November 1 & 15, 2021**

Tom asked are there any additions or corrections Gary?

Gary made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Payroll Claims \$223,459.37 & 235,983.28**

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

**Regular Claims \$556,505.91**

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

**SJCA claim \$15,472.00**

**SJCA claim \$1,708.00**

**SJCA claim \$2,140.00**

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

**Barnes & Thornburg January claim \$2,500.00**

**Barnes & Thornburg February claim \$2,500.00**

Tom asked does this conclude our engagement with them?

Meeks said we are still waiting on our ARPA plan.

Tom said I would think it should come through this month.

Meeks said I don't know when it's coming through.

Tom said we shouldn't owe them for March, what do you think Gary?



Meeks asked do you want to try and follow up, Laura?

Laura said I know you ask me for a list and I had already sent her a list so I resent it when I responded to you and added a couple other things that had been approved since. I know she is working on it but we only got this week in this month. I don't know if it will be done.

Meeks said it's probably going to be March before we conclude it.

Laura said that is what I am thinking too, so we may have to do one more month.

Meeks said we probably have to give 30 days' notice.

Gary made a motion to approve the January and February Barnes & Thornburg claims. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**BF&S claim \$17,829.20**

Gary made a motion to approve the BF&S claim. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Randolph Central School Corp Claim \$18,078.00**

**Union School Corp Claim \$13,027.00**

**Randolph Southern Claim \$156,787.00**

Tom said the windfarm claims for the schools.

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

**Randolph County United February claim 18,837.00**

**Randolph County United Tourism claim \$1,996.00**

Gary made a motion to approve the Randolph County United and the Randolph County United Tourism claims. 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**

**MPX Change Order 03C-02**

Tom said these claims have all been tabled for many months, is there any movement there Gary?

Gary said we did get an email but I think until Mike returns we need to table that.

Tom said I can't see paying them anymore money.

Gary said not to pay them but there was an email to address some of the issues.

### Centerstone lease

Tom said next is the Centerstone lease.

Laura said we don't have that lease yet, but I will let Meeks talk about it.

Meeks said I have a copy of a lease here. You have that lease for about 6384 square feet at \$9.28 a square foot and that was through 2013. You just need to give me some guidance of what you want to do and then I can send it on. It's a five-year lease.

Tom said utility costs have gone up and maintenance on the building. Do you have an idea or a number in mind Gary?

Gary asked is this the only one we are behind on?

Meeks said I don't want to say that Gary. I do know there is a spreadsheet I sent to Laura.

Laura said I have that.

Meeks said we do have a spreadsheet of where everybody is. I think we do not have one for DCS, they were supposed to send it to us and we never received it. That is a state one, they do the form and tell us what's in it and we don't have a whole lot of say. It went up about 6%, you guys were at \$8.75 and then went to \$9.28 and I think that's 6%.

Tom asked and that was in 2013?

Meeks said yes.

Laura said in my conversation with Jake, I think they are still using the same square footage that they have been using.

Tom said 10%, hopefully would cover all of our costs. I'm not sure, natural gas is fluctuating.

Meeks said you can hire Andy Wagner or somebody to get the going rate if that's what you want to do.

Gary said I think we need a ball park figure to work with.

Meeks said we can ask Matt Tarter, I don't know if he does commercial stuff. I don't know if Andy does.

Tom said I can ask Andy and hopefully have something at our next meeting.

### Resolution 2022-01

Tom said this is for disposal of surplus property.

RESOLUTION 2022-01

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF  
RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA,  
AS UNNEEDED, AND  
TO BE CONSIDERED SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR DISPOSAL

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners (“Board”) is empowered to declare unneeded property to be surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the Board may authorize the disposal of surplus property pursuant to IC 5-22-22 *et seq.*;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board that:

1. Pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8, the items listed on Exhibit “A”, attached hereto, shall be considered to be surplus property (“Property”) for purposes of disposal.
2. The value of the property is less than the estimated costs of the sale and transportation of the property.
3. The Property may be sold at public or private sale, and the Board shall allow the Coroner to sell or otherwise dispose of the Property.
4. Proceeds from the sale of the item set forth in Exhibit “A”, shall be placed in the fund from which the item was purchased. If no fund can be identified for the item, the proceeds shall be placed in the General Fund.
5. If the Property fails to sell at public or private sale it may be demolished or scrapped, or, if hazardous, be disposed of for recycling.
6. The Property may be removed from the Randolph County Indiana fixed asset inventory.

Exhibit A

2004 Chevrolet K15/Blazer/Suburban  
VIN: 1GNFK16Z44R284032

Gary made a motion of Resolution 2022-01. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s monthly reports**

Tom said we have September, October, November and December Treasurer’s reports.

Gary made a motion to accept these Treasurer’s reports as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.



## **Chris Shanevfelt**

Chris said late last week, I believe Thursday into Friday the Department of Homeland Security and the Army Core of Engineers pushed out information regarding a grant opportunity through the Army Core of Engineers and through President Biden's infrastructure program that he's got going on to remove low head dams. Randolph County has three of them low head dams according to the Army Core of Engineers between their normal grant and then the infrastructure grant, these low head dams can be removed at 100% cost from the federal government. To get involved in the process we have to sign a letter of intent to be involved in the program. I have to have that turned in by tomorrow.

Tom asked can you tell us the location of these dam's?

Chris said one dam is on State Road 32, west of 700 West, there at the trailer park, camp ground. There's the Fairview dam and then there's another one that's on the Mississinewa, I don't remember, it's in the letter, I have all three of them typed in the letter, the description but those are the three.

Tom asked is one on private property? Maxville?

Chris said I don't know if it's in the state's right away or if it's on private property. The way it looks, it looks like it's in the State's right away.

Tom said the two on Mississinewa do you know how that works, Meeks? Jack Hines has always wanted that one removed behind his house, it's west of 1150, west of Fairview. He has always wanted that one removed.

Meeks said I don't.

Tom asked the one at Fairview, does that property owner want that one removed?

Chris said they're wanting us to put turn around on it.

Tom asked Surveyor, do you want to weigh in on this? I guess we can apply, if we don't do it, it doesn't hurt anything.

Chris said there is no contract, it doesn't commit us to anything.

Ed said the dam at Maxville, when they rebuilt it, the state actually paid to rebuild that dam I'd say about 25 years ago. The reason that dam is there, it fills the fishing pond where that camp ground was at. The neighbors south of the road have wanted the dam gone forever. But the guy actually uses the water from it to fill that fishing pond. I could see him putting up some resistance to it. It's on the low head dam list.

Chris said there is no commitment at this point, it's just saying we are interested in this money and then they put us on that list. It's up to \$10,000,000.00 and they come in and put trees in and try to turn it back into some other kind of place for wildlife.

Gary made a motion that we move forward and get our name on the list. Then we can fight those other battles later. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### Citizen Comments

None

### Meeks Cockerill

Meeks said I have the question about Camp Yale, do you want to discuss this or wait until Mike is back.

Gary said wait.

### Gary Girton

Gary asked Ed Thornburg if you want to come forward. He's been looking at drainage on the north tower. Deciding if we are going to do anything and if so who's going to pay for it.

Tom asked how bad was the flooding last week out there?

Ed said I didn't go back there. I have finally contacted owner of the tile and we have permission to hook to it. My estimated cost to the county is about \$16,000 to \$17,000.00 to take care of this, it includes draining the five-acre field that the Edward's family owns that is just upstream. Honestly if we catch that water and get it underground before it gets there, less of it will go into the catch basin their planning to put under the tower. The Edwards family will pay for about 1/2 the liable going into the project. They are interest in having it drain. Basically, I offered them 1/2 the drainage on it if they would do the other half. Their enthused, Levy's enthused with it. The only thing we need to figure out is who's going to pay for it and when we can do it.

Tom asked there's no money in the drainage funds?

Ed said it's not on a ditch. It's adjacent to the Mississinewa River so there's no legal drain involved. Unless we decide to make that a county outlet, nobody is pushing for that.

Tom asked do you have any suggestions on where we can get the money for this?

Ed said I personally think the engineering company from the tower project should pay for it. I really don't know.

Gary said I just thought since Ed had been looking at this and had came up with some ideas that he ought to present it today and discuss it further.

Tom asked do we still need to raise the generator?



Ed said I think you still need to raise the generator. Like the event we got left with the last two weeks, you cover that surface outlet with ice, until that ice melts it's not going to let any water in. The generator needs raised no matter what. This would make it so the legs of the tower only get wet occasionally and that's the part we can't really change. Raising the generator shouldn't be that, I feel very strongly that they should fix that. They saw fit to put the maintenance building high enough not to have a problem after they realized this, all they've got to do is form on that pad, reset it and extend the wires.

Tom asked is that something we want Ed to talk to the Council about?

Gary said no, I think he just needs to address them, he told me last week that he had arrived at some answers anyway. I thought we needed to start thinking about it. We definitely got to push them on that generator because we're just coming into spring now. If we're not going to get that water drained out of there, we've got to protect that generator.

Tom said I think the drainage is very important. We're going to eat the drainage but hopefully at least they will remedy the generator.

Gary said that was just negligence, there's no question because they went to all the expense to put the control building up on stilts so to speak and then they put the generator down in a hole.

Tom asked do we want to tell Ed to proceed and we will find the money?

Ed said I don't know that I can get it done before crops are done anyway. I've got it on the contractor's radar. I'm probably six-months behind on most of our large projects.

Tom said hopefully this fall we can get it done.

Ed said this fall, I see no problem getting it done.

Gary said Pyramid is under control of that so we need to address Pyramid and tell them that they need to raise that generator before it floods and destroys it and we're not paying for it.

Ed said the last time I was back there the high-water mark on the generator hasn't really changed, it raises up so far and then the water runs off the side.

Gary said it appears to but that doesn't mean it will. It's still getting up on the fuel tank.

Ed said yes, it's half way up on the fuel tank when it does this, I haven't been back there since this last event because I didn't see any reason to track up that driveway.

Gary said they did finish the work on the towers last week and they're coming back the 28<sup>th</sup>, next Monday to start driving the county and doing all that fine tuning and everything and as soon as they get that done hopefully they'll have the new cooling unit in the room that they're putting the control equipment in at the jail. They just got one available so we're having them put it in the room where they're installing the equipment because J&K said they would not put their new



equipment in there if there's no conditioning. When Mike get's back we'll talk about that further about whether or not we will put in an opening in the wall or something.

Missy Williams asked do we have a timeline of what we thought they were supposed to do, what our understanding was and their explanation of why it's not getting done and who's going to be responsible for it?

Gary said that's what the last email we received from them and that's something we're going to address at the next meeting. We've sent emails back and forth, our big push has been to get the towers up and going and getting the equipment put on them and getting the system up and running. We've been working on this for a long time, we finally got a six-month license from the FCC to operate the microwave system and hopefully on my part once we get it up and going they won't come back and take our license away. That's not to say it won't happen. We went ahead and did that, I asked J&K, John Shrew the president of the company and part owner, how much it would cost us if we had to take that down and put the other equipment up which would operate in a similar manner in a different wave and he said a lot. Anything to me is ridiculous. A lot in technology terms I'm guessing is thousands of dollars. Hopefully in the next month or so we'll get some idea of where we stand with Pyramid and all that. We're trying to get all that worked out. That's why we been holding all these claims for ever. We kept thinking they would put some paperwork together to show us where they stood and where we stood and we've not received anything from them other than the fact that I think they're saying we owe them what they say we owe them and we know we don't owe them that. Anyway, that's where we're at.

Tom asked anything else Gary?

Gary said signage, on the inspection from Reece's facility out of Pennsylvania said there was signage that should be on each of the three towers and I've communicated with J&K and they say they're not responsible for it but they've given me a link to a company that can provide us with those signs that we're supposed to have displayed. I just got that Friday so in the next day or two I'll try to contact them and get a price to try and have that before next meeting.

Tom said that probably should come out of these claims also.

Gary said I would think so.

Tom said we ordered a compete project.

Gary asked Bill Richmond are you retiring officially?

Bill said yes, I've got seven days.

Tom said you've been here longer than any of us and we appreciate all your work.

Gary said I think you've done great things for the county and kept people well informed through the newspaper and through the radio. You've done an outstanding job.

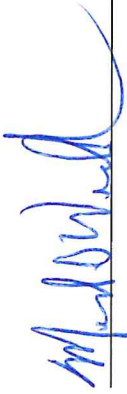
Tom said I Thank you for your perspective, you don't editorialize, you don't judge, you just report the facts. We will miss that.

**Adjournment**

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

Reviewed and signed this 2 day of May, 2022.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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ATTEST:   
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Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County