

**County Council Meeting
March 17, 2026**

Present: Aaron Benton, David Gogel, Brian Greulich, Justin Grose, Susan Harris, Steve Haaff, David Fromme, Auditor Melissa L. Bunner. **Not Present** Attorney Andrew Foster.

Meeting was called to order by President Benton at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Fromme made a motion to approve the minutes for February 17, 2026. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Additional

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL / TREASURER 0003		
Other Services & Charges: Postage	\$1,000	\$1,000
Haaff made a motion to approve. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL / CORONER 0007		
Capital Outlay: Equipment	\$1,500	\$1,500
Harris made a motion to approve. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL / BLDG INSPECTOR 0314		
Supplies: Gas/Fuel/Oil/Lube	\$1,000	\$1,000
Greulich made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL / ANIMAL CONTROL 0626		
Supplies: Maintenance / Building Repair	\$40,000	\$40,000
Gogel made a motion to approve. Haaff seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1159 HEALTH		
Supplies: Gas/Fuel/Oil/Lube	\$1,000	\$1,000
Greulich made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1161 HEALTH		
Other Services & Charges: Contractual Svs / Partners	\$1,800	\$1,800
Grose made a motion to approve. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 9129 HEALTH		
Other Services & Charges: Contracts	\$700	\$700
Greulich made a motion to approve. Fromme seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1191 Riverboat		
Other Services & Charges: Sheriff Dept Jail Study	\$50,000	\$50,000
Grose made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Other Services & Charges: SC Econ Dev RJL Solutions	\$108,000	\$108,000
Fromme made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1202 SURVEYOR		
Other Services & Charges: Cornerstones Verified	\$11,242	\$11,242
Greulich made a motion to approve. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

Transfers

SPENCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Increase Account: 1000-11302-0005

Personal: Sergeants

Amount

\$26,721.72

Approved

\$26,721.72

Decrease Account: 1000-11305-0005

Personal: Deputy

\$26,721.72

\$26,721.72

Fromme made a motion to approve. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SPENCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Increase Account: 1000-11303-0005

Personal: Senior Deputy

Amount

\$19,800

Approved

\$19,800

Decrease Account: 1000-11305-0005

Personal: Deputy

\$19,800

\$19,800

Fromme made a motion to approve. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SPENCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Increase Account: 1000-11301-0005

Personal: Lieutenants

Amount

\$6,815.64

Approved

\$6,815.64

Decrease Account: 1000-11305-0005

Personal: Deputy

\$6,815.64

\$6,815.64

Fromme made a motion to approve. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SPENCER COUNTY 911

Increase Account: 1222-19000-0000

Personal: Overtime

Amount

\$25,000

Approved

\$25,000

Decrease Account: 1222-11620-0000

Personal: Dispatcher

\$25,000

\$25,000

Haaff made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fund 7304 Transfer

During our recent State Board of Accounts audit, there was a recommendation made for this fund. This fund has carried a balance for many years and goes back too far for me to identify where it came from. Since it is a specialized fund, all funding is for Innkeepers. There is a balance of \$10,075.53. **Gogel motioned to move the \$10,075.53 to Fund 1127 as the county portion. Haaff seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Encumbrances

1222 Statewide 911

\$1,875.00

Seed Grant

Gogel made a motion to approve encumbrances. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Annual Appropriations

Gogel motioned to approve. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

It Takes A Village

ITAV is requesting an updated contract with the county. They presented a letter from Tamara N Schmitt, Chairperson of ITV and Attorney at Law with Manion Stigger LLP. They did not have the contract yet but will forward once received.

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission / Jessica Condra

Condra presented a year in review for 2025 Funding Returned on the Per-Capita Investment. This report goes back to compare 2015 – 2025. It also lists the future potential projects.

Greulich motioned to approve the report as presented. Gogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tax Abatement

Dan & Melissa Schroeder of the Growing Success Bee Company is requesting a ten (10) year tax abatement to help them with the start up company. They are moving from Boonville to Dale.

Gogel motioned to approve the standard ten (10) year phase in for real and personal property. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Opioid Funding

Luce Fire Territory has submitted a request for \$28,000 for the purchase of a Lucas Device out of the Opioid funding. The County Commissioners approved the request at their meeting on Friday, February 13, 2026.

Grose motioned to table this request until the Commissioners open a timeline for when the requests will be accepted. Gogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Legal Report

No Report

Old Business

No Report.

New Business

Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service / Jane Stout

Stout provided three (3) quotes to replace the windows at the Rockport Station.

Al's Glass \$7,039.04

Thomas Glass \$7,211.55

ProVia \$7,014.92

Haaff motioned to advertise \$7,500 out of County General. Grose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Stout provided an update on the Mobile Integrated Health Grant. She was expecting to get \$33,800 and received \$34,000.

Stout is asking for approval to apply for the Grow Grant. She has reached out to Indiana 15 Regional to help her write it. It is a high dollar no match grant. **Fromme motioned to approve. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Community Corrections

Holbrook is asking for approval for the submission of the Spencer County Community Corrections CY2025, Spencer County Drug Court CY2025, and Jail Treatment CY2025. **Haaff motioned to approve the annual reports as presented. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Substance Abuse Council / Natalie Bolin

Bolin provided a breakdown of the funds to be awarded from the Drug Free Community Funds. The total amount being awarded totals \$11,396.14. **Grose motioned to approve the distributions as presented. Greulich seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Family Recovery Court / Michaela Claise

Claise is asking for approval to submit her application for the 2027 Family Recovery Court Grant Budget. The budget totals \$98,773.99. **Fromme motioned to approve. Gogel seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Mid States Corridor RDA

Benton started by discussing the Ordinance 2017-05 "An Ordinance Authorizing Spencer County To Participate In The Establishment Of The Mid-States Corridor Regional Development Authority" which was signed August 24, 2017. He turned it over to Ken Mulzer, Jr (RDA Vice Chairman) and Bill Kaiser (RDA Legal Counsel) to discuss what they are requesting.

Kaiser is asking for Spencer County to renew their membership and agree to be a participating member in the RDA. He has provided Ordinance 2026-02 "An Ordinance Authorizing Spencer County To Continue Participation In The Mid-States Corridor Regional Development Authority"

Mulzer stated this project started in 2017. He stated Kentucky has done their part. Owensboro has done their part. Spencer County has done their part. Now it's time to finish this project.

Benton recognized that there was opposition in the room and gave an opportunity to someone to speak.

Brad Hochgesang, State Senate Candidate for District 48 spoke in opposition. He is asking Spencer County to withdraw from the RDA. He provided a new Ordinance "An Ordinance Authorizing Spencer County to Withdraw From The Mid-States Corridor Regional Development Authority Pursuant To Indiana Code Sec 36-7.6-2-5".

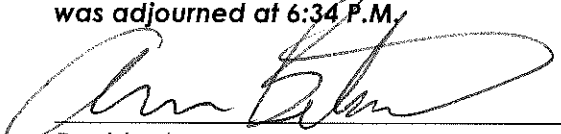
Jason McCoy also spoke in opposition. He provided a MSC Intelligence Dossier – The Mid-States Corridor Project: Financial Conflicts, the "Done Deal" Campaign, and the Private Funding End-Run.

Benton gave the Council members three (3) options. First, to table. Second, to approve the ordinance. Third, to approve the ordinance withdrawing.

Gogel made a motion to adopt the ordinance 2026-02 "An Ordinance Authorizing Spencer County To Continue Participation In The Mid-States Corridor Regional Development Authority". Greulich seconded the motion. All in favor – Aaron Benton, Susan Harris, Steve Haaff, Justin

Grose. Those opposed – David Fromme. 6-1 vote. This is the first reading and will be brought back to the next meeting for the second reading.

Grose made a motion to adjourn. Haaff seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M.



President



Attest: Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner





