

MINUTES
MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on Monday, April 14, 2025, the Marshall County Council met in a public meeting at the Marshall County Building, Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana, at 5:30 p.m. pursuant to the call of the President. The board members present were President Tim Harman, Vice President Nicole Cox, James Masterson, Deborah Johnson, Will Patterson, Brandon Schadek, and Steve Gorski; Council Attorney Marcel Lebbin; and County Auditor, Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>, the Invocation was given by Pastor Andrew Hostetler, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, and noting a quorum is present, the business at hand was heard.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public input concerning agenda items was heard.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Transfer of Power: The Commissioners and Attorney Surrisi have reached out to explore the option of transferring legislative duties to the Council under I.C. 36-2-3.5-1.

Not-for-Profit Donations: The Commissioners have requested the Council develop a policy for not-for-profit agencies to provide financial reports.

CASA Program: The restricted opioid funding may be used in certain situations, kids and/or parent/guardian addiction, to support CASA.

MARSHALL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Marshall County Economic Development Corporation President/CEO Greg Hildebrand presented the 2024 Annual Report and the 1st quarter review of 2025. He stated that the economy is growing, and several expansion plans being considered are beginning to come to fruition. The consensus of the manufacturers regarding tariffs is uncertainty, which is a problem. He provided an update on several projects around the county, including the Dr. Bardwell Aquatic Center. He stated that no MCEDC funds from any investors either public or private were used to construct or operate the aquatic center.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway: Member Gorski reported that a meeting was held on April 10th with Superintendent Peters, Council members Gorski, Masterson, and Schadek, Commissioner Klotz and Auditor Birchmeier. Discussion was held concerning the Community Crossings bid packets, the DLGF 2025 budget cuts, the need for additional funding, and revenue options.

Highway Superintendent Jason Peters presented two draft options for road work and additional paving projects. He indicated \$1 million was needed for in-house projects and an additional \$1 million to continue the road program.

Subcommittee members stated they were not in favor of the second \$1 million due to the unknown costs of the pending lawsuit, the impact of Senate Bill 1, and other department needs.

Superintendent Peters then requested a review of job descriptions. Member Cox explained that the open enrollment period ends on April 30th, and he should submit his request.

Budget & Finance: President Harman provided members with a spreadsheet of 2025 Cash Balances for Key Funds.

Job Classification & Compensation: Member Cox reported that a meeting was held on April 11th with Council members Masterson, Cox, and Johnson, Human Resources Administrator Daake, and Auditor Birchmeier. The following requests were discussed:

- Health Department: Requesting an additional Clerk/Registrar and they withdrew the request for an additional Public Health Nurse.
- Recorder: Requesting additional full-time position, to be paid from Recorder Perpetuation Fund.
- Sheriff: Update to the Communication Supervisor's job description.

The next meeting will be April 28th.

COUNCIL ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-1(4) Additional Appropriations: Notice of Proposed Additional Appropriation was advertised in the Pilot News, posted on the county website, and bulletin boards on March 27, 2025.

General Fund/Commissioners (1000-068): **Will Patterson moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$75,000 into Dustin's Place.** Discussion was held concerning whether the use of taxpayer funds should be used to support non-profit agencies. **Motion carried 6-1, with Nicole Cox voting no.**

Cum Cap Development (1138): **Nicole Cox moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$27,744 into Security Systems. Motion carried 7-0.**

GAL/CASA (1213): **Steve Gorski moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$1,500 into Capacity Grant Supplies and \$4,443 into Capacity Grant Services. Motion carried 7-0.**

Emergency 911 (1222): **Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$21,522.68 into Equipment Maintenance & Repair. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2025-2(3): Transfer of Appropriations:

General/Human Resources (1000-017): **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$6,200 from Office Supplies and \$650 from Travel/Mileage into Office Equipment. Motion carried 7-0.**

General/Museum (1000-174): **James Masterson moved, second by Steve Gorski, to approve the transfer of \$300 from Operating Supplies into Wages-Longevity. Motion carried 7-0.**

MVH Restricted (1173): **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$250,000 from Bituminous into Stone, Gravel, Aggregates. Motion carried 7-0.**

MVH (1176): James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$40,300 from Other Operating Supplies and \$11,900 from Paint into Sodium Chloride (Salt). Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance 2025-4(3): Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-23: Marshall County Circuit Court, Fund 1000-232 Circuit Court, adding one Interim Court Administrator/Assistant Court Reporter/Bailiff, full-time, COMOT5, Non-exempt, at \$27.42 per hour from April 3, 2025 through April 11, 2025. James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve Ordinance 2025-4(3): Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-23. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance 2025-5(3): Establish New County Fund 9018 Title IV-E Incentive Payment Program: Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve Ordinance 2025-5(3): Establish New County Fund 9018 Title IV-E Incentive Payment Program. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance 2025-13: Dormant Funds: Auditor Birchmeier explained that five county funds have been inactive or dormant for several years and requests the cash balances totaling \$58,081.16 be transferred to the County General Fund. Brandon Schadek moved, second Nicole Cox, to approve Ordinance 2025-13: Dormant Funds. Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2025-4: A Joint Resolution of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and the Marshall County Council Honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Congresswoman Jacqueline R. Walorski: Vice President Cox read the Resolution into the record, whereby in honor of Jackie Walorski, the portions of Old US 31 (Michigan Road) under the jurisdiction of Marshall County are hereafter dedicated to her memory and shall be honorarily marked "Jackie Walorski Road" from the St. Joseph County Line to the Fulton County Line. James Masterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve Resolution 2025-4: A Joint Resolution of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners and the Marshall County Council Honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Congresswoman Jacqueline R. Walorski. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of March 10, 2025: Steve Gorski moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the meeting minutes of March 10, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1, with James Masterson abstaining.

Lebbin Law Invoice: Nicole Cox moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the submission of Lebbin Law invoice #1711 in the amount of \$1,110. Motion carried 7-0.

Bourbon Public Library Appointment: Will Patterson moved, second by Steve Gorski, to approve the reappointment of Cheri Kilgore to the Bourbon Public Library Board for a four-year term, beginning May 1, 2025 and ending April 30, 2029. Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

Board of Commissioners President Stan Klotz stated that the Commissioners are seeking bids for the HVAC and air handling systems in the new building located at 990 Illinois Street.

Commissioner Klotz also explained that the Plan Commission Board accepted a bid to clean up a property. There will be an additional appropriation request submitted at the May meeting for consideration.

COUNCIL ITEMS - CONTINUED

Public Safety Grant: The Council will be submitting a claim to move \$325,008.64 from the General Fund to the newly established grant fund. The Commissioners will be submitting an additional appropriation request to be considered at the May meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, **the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. upon motion by Nicole Cox, second by Deborah Johnson. Motion carried 7-0.**

Tim Harman, President

Will Patterson

Nicole Cox, Vice President

Steve Gorski

James Masterson

Brandon Schadek

Deborah Johnson

Attest:

Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor