MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of Marshall County, Indiana, met for a regular meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana at 9:30 a.m., Monday, June 16, 2025. Present were Commissioners, Stan Klotz, President, Jesse Bohannon, Vice President, and Adam Faulstich, Member; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; as well as County Auditor Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting was streamed live at http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN. The Invocation was given by Brandon Ritchie, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, the meeting was called to order, and the business at hand was heard.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public input concerning agenda items was heard.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented a road surface cut and right-of-way cut request from BSM Groups on behalf of Comcast Cable along 6th Road, between Rose Road and Spruce Trail, in Polk Township, for the purpose of installing conduit and fiber cable. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the road surface cut and rightof-way cut request from BSM Groups on behalf of Comcast Cable along 6th Road, between Rose Road and Spruce Trail, in Polk Township, for the purpose of installing conduit and fiber cable. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented a request from Troyer Group/Frontier on Old US 30/Center Street, between Main Street and North Thompson Street, in Bourbon Township, for the purpose of providing internet service to a customer. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the right-of-way cut request from Troyer Group/Frontier on Old US 30/Center Street, between Main Street and North Thompson Street, in Bourbon Township, for the purpose of providing internet service to a customer. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters presented a road bore and right-of-way cut request from Surf Internet on Michigan Road, between US 6 and 2C Road, in North Township, for the purpose of tying into the existing LaPaz network for an ICP grant customer. Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the road bore and right-of-way cut request from Surf Internet on Michigan Road, between US 6 and 2C Road, in North Township, for the purpose of tying into the existing LaPaz network for an ICP grant customer. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Peters provided an update on the following projects: Bridge 1, Ule Road (Local Project): Awarded \$706,269.81.

<u>Bridge 232, Randolph Street</u>: A progress report was provided for the work being completed by LaPorte Construction, indicating the project is 44% complete.

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: The letting date is 2027. No updates.

Bridge 88, 12th Road east of Olive Trail: The letting date is January 14, 2029. No updates.

Bridge 108, East 7th Road: The letting date is February 12, 2030. No updates.

Bridge Inspections 2022-2025 Phase II: No updates.

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: The project has been assigned DES No. 2300183.No updates.

<u>Mill Pond Dam Improvements</u>: In process of contacting company to schedule the slip lining for the pipe.

<u>Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)</u>: The charging stations have been installed and the electricity connected. The meter box will be installed.

Horse-Drawn Vehicle License Fees: No updates.

<u>2025 Road Program</u>: A progress report was presented. Road work began on May 29th. The following roads will be chip and sealed: Jarrah Road, 12B Road to 14th Road; 3rd Road, King Road to Lilac Road; Lilac Road, 3rd Road to 4A Road; Lilac Road, US 6 to 1B Road; 1B Road, Linden Road to Lilac Road; Linden Road, US 6 to 1B Road; King Road, 1st Road to County Line Road; Oak Road, US 6 to 1st Road; Pine Road, US 6 to 1st Road; Sycamore Road, 1st Road to County Line Road; 1C Road, US 6 to County Line Road; Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, Thorn Road to 3B Road; and 7th Road, Plymouth-LaPorte Trail to County Line Road. As of today, it is estimated that 42 center lane miles have been sealed and approximately 14 total center lane miles triple sealed. The cost of emulsion was \$416,659.74 and the cost of stone was \$125,248.80, for a total of \$541,908.54.

Superintendent Peters added additional segments to the 2025 Road Program since approved by the Commissioners: 1C Road, US 6 to County Line Road; Jarrah Road, 6B Road to 7th Road; Lilac Road, 3rd Road to 4A Road; Linden Road, US 6 to 1B Road; and Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, from Thorn Road to 3B Road. Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the additional road segments to the 2025 Road Program, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>Community Crossings 2025-01</u>: Milestone Contractors plan to start on 16C Road on June 19th and 3rd Road in early July.

Additional Paving Projects: Superintendent Peters stated that bids were opened for the following projects at the May 5th meeting, with the low bid from Milestone Contractors in the sum of \$537,904.50: King Road, Lincoln Highway to US 30 / 9A Road; Suter Road, 9th Road to 9A Road; 9th Road, dead end to Richter Road; Quail Ridge Drive, 12th Road to dead end; and Kenilworth Road, railroad tracks to Dewey Street. He requested support to complete the additional paving projects. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to support the Highway Department in seeking funding support for the additional paving projects, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

MARSHALL COUNTY TOBACCO EDUCATION

Marshall County Tobacco Education Coordinator Annette Haining requested permission to allow a county employee to take the Marshall County Health Department cargo trailer to Porter County on Saturday, August 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a fair. Discussion was held concerning the County policy regarding travel outside of the County.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to deny the request as presented with a contingency to negotiate an agreement and transfer title of the cargo trailer. Motion carried 3-0.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

<u>Lake Enforcement DNR Grant:</u> Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve Grant Agreement, under Contract #92689, between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources/Division of Law Enforcement and Marshall County in the amount of \$15,000. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>iTouch Equipment Grant Request and Conveyance of Equipment Agreement:</u> The Sheriff is seeking approval of the Request to Apply for an Indiana Supreme Court Grant to improve jail fingerprinting equipment and approval of the Conveyance of Equipment Agreement. The federal government will be providing, through the Indiana Supreme Court, Office of Court Technology, an iTouch Biometrics fingerprint machine valued at \$22,035. There will be no monetary exchange. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the request to apply for the Indiana Supreme Court Grant and to approve the Conveyance of Equipment Agreement between the Indiana Supreme Court, Office of Judicial Administration, Indiana Office of Court Technology and Marshall County, and to allow the Sheriff to sign on behalf of Marshall County. Motion carried 3-0.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Treasurer Wendy Tapia presented the Confidentiality Agreement between Marshall County, Indiana and the Indiana Department of Revenue (IDOR). The agreement serves as an understanding and acknowledgement that any information the IDOR shares with the Treasurer will be strictly confidential and safeguarded. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the Confidentiality Agreement between Marshall County, Indiana and the Indiana Department of Revenue and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Birchmeier provided a brief explanation of the Innkeepers Tax and Tourism Commission. Vice President Bohannon requested Attorney Surrisi research to determine if the County is statutorily required to provide the innkeepers tax to the Tourism Commission.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Surrisi did not have any items to report.

AUDITOR REPORT

June 2, 2025 Minutes: Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the June 2, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

June 5, 2025 Executive Session Minutes: Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the June 5, 2025 executive session minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Accounts Payable Claims: Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the accounts payable claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>Payroll Claims</u>: Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the payroll claims as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Woodward, 12094 Peach Road, Plymouth, spoke about the individuals within the Regional Sewer District being responsible for themselves and not being forced by a board to hook up to a sewer.

Jennifer Leary, 15986 Cook Lake Trail, Plymouth, addressed the concerns she has heard about the Regional Sewer District being a new item, which it is not. There were studies dating back to 2005 and 2013. She questioned how much money the Regional Sewer District has spent and whether the \$500,000 pledge made by the county has been provided. She spoke in favor of individuals having a right to clean water.

Tony Soria, 17336 Tomahawk Trail, Plymouth, stated his desire for the Regional Sewer District Board to hold evening meetings.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-16: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners Regarding Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Marshall County Regional Sewer District: Attorney Surrisi stated that he has reviewed the memo from the Regional Sewer District Attorney Chris Nusbaum and the letter from Tom McFadden and they have differing legal opinions. Discussion was held concerning boards being held accountable to public opinion. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 2025-16: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners Regarding Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Marshall County Regional Sewer District on second and third reading. Motion carried 3-0.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to declare the seat held by Tom McFadden on the Marshall County Regional Sewer District as vacant. Motion carried 3-0.

Owner Occupied Housing Project De-obligation: The Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority has presented Amendment #2 to the Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement, Award Agreement No. HD-022-001 to reduce the award amount from \$500,000 to \$424,943.59 and to de-obligate \$75,056.41. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the de-obligation amount of \$75,056.41 and to approve Amendment #2 to the Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement, as presented and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>Covered Bridge Certification:</u> Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the Covered Bridge Certification stating Marshall County does not have any covered bridges per I.C. 8-14-1-10. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>Jail Communications Tower:</u> Attorney Surrisi stated the Purchase and Sale Agreement was approved at the prior meeting and will be considered by the Marshall County Holding Corporation at their meeting today.

<u>Amazon Business Prime for Indiana Counties:</u> Discussion was held concerning the county utilizing the Amazon Business Prime for Indiana Counties as endorsed by AIC. <u>990 Illinois Street - Generator:</u> Banner Electric submitted a bid to install a 40kw Cummins generator in the amount of \$39,400. President Klotz explained the invoice will be paid by the Health Department. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to accept the Banner Electric bid for a 40kw Cummins generator, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>990 Illinois Street – Electrical Upgrade:</u> Banner Electric submitted a bid to upgrade the existing electric service in the amount of \$10,500. President Klotz explained the invoice will be paid by Buildings & Grounds. Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to accept the Banner Electric bid for the electric service upgrade, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Exempt Employee Flex Time: Discussion was held concerning a personnel policy change to allow exempt employees to earn flex time. The flex time would be in a limited amount for a specified period and not be considered a benefit to be paid out upon termination of the employee. Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to allow the Auditor and Human Resources Administrator to proceed with the preparation of a policy change to allow exempt employees to earn flex time, for consideration at a future meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

<u>County Ordinances</u>: President Klotz stated that ordinances passed in Marshall County are available on the website at <u>www.co.marshall.in.us</u>.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board, Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to adjourn the meeting at 11:01 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Stan Klotz, President

Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST:

Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

Adam Faulstich, Member