

**MINUTES**  
**MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2025**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on Monday, August 11, 2025, the Marshall County Council met in a public meeting at the Marshall County Building, Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana, at 9:00 a.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 Greg Compton; 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 Dan Lowry, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, and noting a quorum was present, the business at hand was heard.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No public input on agenda items was heard.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

Tamarack Solar: The Allen County Superior Court ruled that the BZA's Motion to Quash is granted and its objection to the proposed nonparty discovery to the Marshall County Council is sustained and Tamarack's Request to Serve said discovery is denied.

Regional Sewer District: The bond documents have been requested and responsibility for the indebtedness needs to be determined. Council members held discussion.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Highway: The Total Patcher has been purchased, and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Budget & Finance: A meeting was not held. President Harman provided a statement of the Cash Balances of Key Funds.

Job Classification & Compensation: The subcommittee is finalizing what the recommendation will be for the Council concerning CASA.

**ONE MARSHALL COUNTY**

Chelsea Smith provided a handout outlining their mission, who they are, what they do, partners, a snapshot of Marshall County today, and the initial focus areas with priority statistics. The five thematic committees that guide One Marshall County are housing and infrastructure, education and workforce development, quality of life, quality of place, and business innovation and growth.

## **BOWEN HEALTH**

Bowen Health Director of Community Engagement for Marshall County, Zachary Cook and Executive Director of Northwest Indiana, Mark Groeller thanked the Board for their financial support and choosing them as the mental health provider. They explained that they will be opening a facility in Bremen and later this year adding dental services. A financial report was provided, with an outline of the total number of patients and services provided.

## **GIBSON INSURANCE**

Gibson Insurance Employee Benefits Consultant, Yana Jones and Senior Client Manager, Melinda Lemler explained that in 2024 the county moved from a fully insured employee medical plan to a self-insured plan. This transition allows the county more flexibility, ability to manage the budget, and keep employees healthy. Two programs were highlighted, SHARx and KISx. SHARx is an alternative sourcing option for high cost specialty medications, working directly with the manufacturer at low or no cost to the employee and County. In 2024, this program saved \$483,000 and in 2025, the program was enhanced and saved \$330,000 from January through July; the combined total saving is \$813,000. KISx is a surgical and imaging program that is available to medical plan members with zero to low cost. In 2024, this program saved \$21,000 and in 2025 saved \$30,000; with total savings of \$51,000. The total combined savings for the County and employee are \$864,000.

## **SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Matt Hassel presented the Report of Receipts and Distribution of the Commissary Fund for the Period of January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025. **Brandon Schadek moved, second by James Masterson, to accept the Report of Receipts and Distribution of the Commissary Fund for the Period of January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

## **EMA**

On behalf of EMA Director Jack Garner, Board of Commissioners President Stan Klotz, requested permission to apply for the Emergency Management Performance Grant with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. He explained that it is a federal grant that reimburses up to 50% of the EMA Director's 2025 salary, not to exceed \$30,000. **Greg Compton moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve request to apply for the Emergency Management Performance Grant, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

## **COUNCIL ITEMS**

Ordinance 2025-1(8) Additional Appropriations: Notice of Proposed Additional Appropriation was advertised in the Pilot News, posted on the county website, and bulletin boards on July 31, 2025.

General Fund/Coroner (1000-007): **Nicole Cox moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$30,000 into Autopsy. Motion carried 7-0.**

LIT Special Purpose (1114): **Brandon Schadek moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$50,000 into Insurance. Motion carried 7-0.**

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (8118): **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$18,000 into Wages-Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; and \$2,000 into Employer Social Security. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2025-2(7): Transfer of Appropriations:

General/Election Board (1000-062): Nicole Cox moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the transfer of \$1,000 from Office Supplies into Wages-Absentee Voter Board; and \$500 from Legal Advertising to Wages-Absentee Voter Board. Motion carried 7-0.

LIT Special Purpose (1114): Nicole Cox moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the transfer of \$100,000 from Machinery & Equipment into Repair Buildings & Structures. Motion carried 7-0.

MVH (1176): Nicole Cox moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the transfer of \$10,000 from Wages-Laborer/Seasonal Mowing Supervisor into Wages-Heavy Equipment Operator PT. Motion carried 7-0.

MVH/MVH Restricted (1176/1173): Brandon Schadek moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the transfer of \$46,959.58 from MVH Bituminous into MVH Restricted Bituminous. Motion carried 7-0.

Solid Waste: Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$6,000 from Personnel Liabilities into Retirement; \$2,079.54 from Personnel Liabilities into Technology; \$250 from Office & Warehouse Supplies into Postage; \$3,100 from Printing & Outreach into Security & Software; \$5,000 from IDEM Grant Funds into Tires; \$3,200 from IDEM Grant Funds into Education & Training; \$1,200 from Buildings & Grounds into Utilities; and \$3,000 from Electronics into Utilities. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of July 14, 2025: James Masterson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the meeting minutes of July 14, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2025: Greg Compton moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the special meeting minutes of July 30, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Lebbin Law Invoice: Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the submission of Lebbin Law invoice #1790 in the amount of \$1,320. Member Compton questioned the July 14<sup>th</sup> description that Attorney Lebbin prepared for and attended Council meeting, when he was absent. Attorney Lebbin did meet with the President and Vice President prior to the meeting. Tim Harman moved, second by Deborah Johnson to strike the word “attend” on the invoice. Motion carried 7-0.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Bill Woodward, 10294 Peach Road, Plymouth, commented on the Regional Sewer District.

Nelson Washburn, 718 W. Lake Ave, Plymouth, commented on the Regional Sewer District.

Council members discussed the Regional Sewer District and tentatively scheduled a Joint Work Session with the Board of Commissioners on August 20th at 6:00 p.m.

### **RECESS**

A recess was taken from 10:58 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Attorney Lebbin was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

## **2026 BUDGET – FIRST READING**

Commissioners: The total budget submitted is \$8,452,808.  
Drainage Board: The total budget submitted is \$9,800.  
Cumulative Capital Development (CCD): The total budget submitted is \$1,202,704.  
Medical Benefits Self Insurance: The total budget submitted is \$3,561,069.  
Dental Benefits Self Insurance: The total budget submitted is \$174,295.  
County IV-D Incentive: The total budget submitted is \$5,500.  
Building Maintenance: The total budget submitted is \$973,375.  
Highway: The total budget submitted is \$5,786,702.  
Cum Bridge: The total budget submitted is \$2,204,499.  
Local Roads and Streets: The total budget submitted is \$1,022,000.  
General - Sheriff: The total budget submitted is \$3,266,253.  
LIT Special Purpose: The total budget submitted is \$6,494,181.  
Drug Free Community: The total budget submitted is \$70,000.  
Extradition/Sheriff Assistance: The total budget submitted is \$60,000.  
Firearms Training: The total budget submitted is \$35,000.  
Misdemeanant-County Corrections: The total budget submitted is \$112,000.  
Sex/Violent Offender Administration: The total budget submitted is \$7,700.  
Statewide 911: The total budget submitted is \$763,715.  
Central Dispatch: The total budget submitted is \$368,054.  
K9 Program: The total budget submitted is \$2,000.  
DARE: The total budget submitted is \$15,000.  
DEA Forfeiture: The total budget submitted is \$26,000.  
Lake Enforcement DNR Grant: The total budget submitted is \$65,000.  
Clerk: The total budget submitted is \$510,304.  
Voter Registration: The total budget submitted is \$62,769.  
Election Board: The total budget submitted is \$131,600.  
Clerks Records Perpetuation: The total budget submitted is \$73,000.  
Clerk IV-D: The total budget submitted is \$18,900.  
Treasurer: The total budget submitted is \$240,375.  
Recorder: The total budget submitted is \$165,005.  
ID Security Program: The total budget submitted is \$8,000.  
Recorders Perpetuation: The total budget submitted is \$44,624.  
Surveyor: The total budget submitted is \$252,938.  
Surveyor Corner Perpetuation: The total budget submitted is \$85,364.  
Coroner: The total budget submitted is \$191,559.  
LEPC: The total budget submitted is \$22,988.  
Assessor: The total budget submitted is \$208,923.  
Sales Disclosure-County Share: The total budget submitted is \$15,300.  
Reassessment: The total budget submitted is \$598,623.  
Prosecutor: The total budget submitted is \$887,724.  
Pre-Trial Diversion: The total budget submitted is \$225,021.  
Prosecutor IV-D: The total budget submitted is \$57,522.

A recess was taken from 1:26 p.m. until 1:33 p.m.

Extension: The total budget submitted is \$301,706.  
Veterans Service Officer: The total budget submitted is \$75,404.  
Plan Commission: The total budget submitted is \$345,681.  
Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA): The total budget submitted is \$46,700.  
Building Commission: The total budget submitted is \$103,696.

Unsafe Building: The total budget submitted is \$85,000.  
Information Systems: The total budget submitted is \$214,768.  
Museum: The total budget submitted is \$175,555.  
Historical Society: The total budget submitted is \$99,237.  
Superior Court #1: The total budget submitted is \$386,222.  
Superior Court # 2: The total budget submitted is \$513,507.  
Superior Court # 3: The total budget submitted is \$269,403.  
PSC Drug Court: The total budget submitted is \$5,000.  
Community Corrections: The total budget submitted is \$362,802.  
Community Corrections-Problem Solving Court: The total budget submitted is \$35,000.  
Community Corrections Project Income: The total budget submitted is \$648,246.  
Circuit Court: The total budget submitted is \$341,347.  
CASA: The total budget submitted is \$73,000.  
Probation: The total budget submitted is \$893,431.  
Supplemental Adult Probation: The total budget submitted is \$94,962.  
Weights & Measures: The total budget submitted is \$30,491.  
EMA: The total budget submitted is \$86,254.  
Soil & Water: The total budget submitted is \$50,887.  
Park & Recreation Board: The total budget submitted is \$32,000.  
Health: The total budget submitted is \$626,829.  
Health First: The total budget submitted is \$309,776.  
Human Resources: The total budget submitted is \$102,331.  
Auditor: The total budget submitted is \$435,007.  
Plat Mapping: The total budget submitted is \$39,688.  
Auditor Ineligible: The total budget submitted is \$39,000.  
County Officials Training Fund: Total budget submitted is \$25,000.  
Council: The total budget submitted is \$730,476.

A Joint Work Session with the Board of Commissioners will be held on August 20th at 6:00 p.m. and the budget hearing will be held on September 8th at 9:00 a.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business coming before the Council, **the meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m. upon motion by Deborah Johnson, second by Nicole Cox. Motion carried 7-0.**

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Tim Harman, President

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Will Patterson

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Nicole Cox, Vice President

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Brandon Schadek

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James Masterson

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Greg Compton

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Deborah Johnson

Attest:

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Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor