

**MARSHALL COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 1, 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 8:30 a.m., Monday, December 1, 2025. Present were Commissioners, Stan Klotz, President, Jesse Bohannon, Vice President, and Adam Faulstich, Member; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; and County Auditor Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting was streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, the meeting was called to order, and the business at hand was heard.

President Klotz acknowledged State Representatives Jack Jordan and Jeff Thompson for taking the time to meet with Marshall County representatives to discuss local issues.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No public input on agenda items was heard.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented seven (7) road bore, right-of-way cuts, and aerial requests from CNS Networks on behalf of Brightspeed for the purpose of placing conduit, fiber optic cable and anchors, as follows:

1. Permit No. 035379: N. Linden Trail, between N. Linden Trail and Plymouth-Goshen Trail, in Center Township.
2. Permit No. 035378: On Plymouth-Goshen Trail, between Plymouth-Goshen Trail and US 31, in Center Township.
3. Permit No. 035000: On King Road, between King Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Road, in Center Township.
4. Permit No. 035381: On King Road, between King Road and 6B Road, in North Township.
5. Permit No. 035373: On Lilac Road, between Lilac Road and Plymouth-Goshen Trail, in North Township.
6. Permit No. 034989: On Michigan Road, between 12<sup>th</sup> Road and Michigan Road, in Center Township.
7. Permit No. 035380: On Plymouth-Goshen Trail, between Lilac Road and Plymouth-Goshen Trail, in Center Township.

**Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the seven (7) road bore, right-of-way cuts, and aerial requests from CNS Networks on behalf of Brightspeed, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented three (3) road bore and right-of-way cut requests from the Troyer Group on behalf of Frontier for the purpose of providing internet to customers, as follows:

1. Project No. 2525752: On North Center, Old US 30, Rose Lane, Pansy, Tulip, Crocus, Aster, and 12B Road, between Ecker Ave and Lincoln Street, in Bourbon Township.
2. Project No. 2525748: On Bourbon Street, Thompson Street, and Jefferson Street, between Bourbon Street and Main Street, in Bourbon Township.
3. Project No. 2525750: On North Street, between Washington Street and Main Street, in West Township.

**Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the three road bore and right-of-way cut requests from the Troyer Group on behalf of Frontier, as presented.**

**Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented a right-of-way cut request from Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) on W. 6<sup>th</sup> Road, between Michigan Road and Lilac Road, in North Township, for the purpose of retiring and removing an existing aerial crossing alongside the bridge.

**Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the right-of-way cut request from NIPSCO, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters presented five (5) road bore requests from Comcast Cable for the purpose of providing internet to customers, as follows:

1. Work Order No. PTC-435729: At 19361 Lincoln Highway, in West Township.
2. Work Order No. PTC-440331: At 18772 6B Road, in Polk Township.
3. Work Order No. PTC-440152: At 20741 6B Road in Polk Township.
4. Work Order No. PTC-446510: At 6337 Underwood Road, in Polk Township.
5. Work Order No. PTC-533086: at 19549 7<sup>th</sup> Road, in Center Township.

**Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve the five road bore requests from Comcast Cable, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

Superintendent Peters provided an update on the following projects:

Bridge 1, Ule Road (Local Project): All seven concrete box beams have been set on the bearing pads and all four wing walls have been formed and poured.

Bridge 232, Randolph Street: The inspection walk through was completed. Due to some spalling/raveling on the joints, LaPorte Construction is going to do some repair work.

Bridge 87, 11<sup>th</sup> Road: Des No. 1702839. No update.

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: No update.

Bridge 88, 12<sup>th</sup> Road east of Olive Trail: The date of letting is January 14, 2029. No update.

Bridge 108, East 7<sup>th</sup> Road: The date of letting is February 12, 2030. No update.

Bridge Inspections 2022-2025 Phase II: No update.

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: DES No. 2300183. No updates.

Mill Pond Dam Improvements: Work is planned to begin this week, weather permitting.

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG): No updates.

HSIP Countywide Striping Initiative: DES No. 2401543. No updates.

Vialytics: All ratings have been completed and scored on a basis of 1, failed, to 10, excellent, as follows: Excellent 8% (9 &10), Very Good 32% (8), Good 11% (7), Good 22% (6), Fair 7% (5), Fair 2% (4), Poor 14% (3), Very Poor 3% (2), and Failed 1% (1). The current average rating is 6.3. A total of 292.07 miles rated as Good, 329.51 miles rated as Fair, and 193.05 miles rated as Poor.

2025 Road Program: The crew is patching potholes, working on gravel roads, and cutting brush. The 2026 road program is being drafted. Working on a long term equipment replacement/upgrade plan.

Community Crossings 2025-01: Working on closing out the project.

Community Crossings 2026-01: The application has been submitted.

Bridge 2540, Michigan Road Rehabilitation: The financial commitment letter has been submitted.

2026 Annual Bids: The annual bids will be opened today at 10:30 a.m.

### **SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

In-Car Camera System: Sheriff Matt Hassel, Line Sergeant Jordan Rans, and Communication Supervisor Zach McGuigan presented a request to upgrade the patrol officer in-car camera system next year. They explained the need and outlined the benefits to officer safety. An estimate from Axon Enterprise, Inc. was presented in the total amount of \$199,920. The payment schedule outlined five annual payments in the amount of \$39,984. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to provide a favorable recommendation for the Sheriff's Department to seek financial support from Council. Motion carried 3-0.**

2026 Sheriff Salary Contract: The Sheriff's Salary Contract presented was identical to the prior year contract, with the annual salary increased to \$117,999.99. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the 2026 Sheriff Salary Contract, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

### **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Billy Schoff presented a department update. He highlighted the completed projects at the health department, in the county building, courthouse, morgue, highway department, museum, and maintenance shop. The Commissioners requested a plan be prepared for major projects to be evaluated and budgeted.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

Update on Thomas McFadden Litigation and Marshall County Regional Sewer District Dissolution: Attorney Surrisi advised that the parties cross-motions for summary judgment were due to be filed on December 1<sup>st</sup>. He is working to complete drafting those documents today. Both sides will file response briefs by December 12<sup>th</sup>, and the court will hold a hearing on the motions December 22<sup>nd</sup>. He noted that he had requested that the Marshall County Regional Sewer Districts' (MCRSD) lawyers provide a copy of any appeal of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) dissolution order, but he had not yet received a copy of such filing. Counsel is working to schedule a meeting with representatives of the county and the MCRSD to explore a prompt settlement of all claims.

### **AUDITOR REPORT**

**November 17, 2025 Minutes:** Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve November 17, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

**November 17, 2025 Executive Session Minutes:** Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to approve November 17, 2025 executive session minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

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

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

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Human Resources Administrator Jennifer Daake stated a request was received for the use of 30 sick bank days. The applicant does meet all the required criteria. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the 30-day sick bank request. Motion carried 3-0.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Woodward, 12094 Peach Road, Plymouth, commented on the Regional Sewer District.

### **COMMISSIONER ITEMS**

**Older Adult Services/Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Section 5311 Grant Agreement:** President Klotz stated that Contract 97572, Project #18046700 for calendar year 2026 operating costs, with the federal share in the amount of \$310,472 has been received and digitally signed. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to ratify the Section 5311 Grant Agreement, between INDOT, Marshall County Commissioners, and Marshall County Council on Aging, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

**Older Adult Services/Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Section 5339 Grant Agreement:** President Klotz stated that Contract 98150, Project #3406470C for calendar year 2026 capital costs, with the federal share in the amount of \$127,500 has been received and digitally signed. **Stan Klotz moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to ratify the Section 5339 Grant Agreement, between INDOT, Marshall County Commissioners, and Marshall County Council on Aging, as presented. Motion carried 3-0.**

**Ordinance 2025-31: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Commissioners Establishing the Public Defender Department:** **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve Ordinance 2025-31: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Commissioners Establishing the Public Defender Department on first reading. Motion carried 3-0.**

**Jesse Bohannon moved, to suspend the rules and approve Ordinance 2025-31: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Commissioners Establishing the Public Defender Department on second and third reading.** The motion was withdrawn and the ordinance will be considered at the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Financial Institution Tax (FIT) & Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET): Auditor Birchmeier stated that there was a statutory change in the way FIT and CVET money is distributed. Previously the tax dollars were distributed based on a formula that the Auditor was required to calculate and then deposit into the levy funds. Now, it will come as a lump sum and the Commissioners, as the legislative body, must determine where the money is deposited. **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the distribution of FIT and CVET into the County General Fund. Motion carried 3-0.**

Community Corrections Update: The Community Corrections staff will remain at the Community Resource Center for a few months while the new office, located at 401 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, is being prepared.

2026 Legislative Session: The General Assembly will begin the 2026 legislative session earlier next year. Vice President Bohannon stated that the jail bond payoff and changing statute to allow the balance of the LIT Special Purpose fund to be used for operational costs at the jail, is the highest priority. The second is to clarify statute on oversight for appointed boards seeking debt and the need for Council to have binding authority. He has requested that lobbyist, Randy Head, send a proposal to pursue these efforts on behalf of the County.

Flock Cameras: Vice President Bohannon expressed concern over the surveillance security of the flock cameras and requested Attorney Surrisi to review the contract.

The meeting was recessed at 9:33 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

2026 Annual Highway Bids: Twenty items were advertised for bid. Following Attorney Surrisi opening the bids, **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to accept and take the 2026 annual highway bids under advisement. Motion carried 3-0.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the board, **Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.**

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Stan Klotz, President

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Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

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Adam Faulstich, Member