

**MINUTES
MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026**

BE REMEMBERED: That on Monday, January 12, 2026, the Marshall County Council met at 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 President Tim Harman. The board members present were Tim Harman, 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 Rob Keck, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, and noting a quorum was present, the business at hand was heard.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**James Masterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to retain Tim Harman as President and Nicole Cox as Vice President of the Marshall County Council for 2026.
Motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The attendees did not have public input on agenda items.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Marshall County Regional Sewer District: The Regional Sewer District Board will be meeting this week.

Lebbin Law 2026 Engagement for Legal Services: The terms of the agreement remain the same as last year. **Will Patterson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the Lebbin Law 2026 Engagement for Legal Services, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

2025 Annual Report: EMA Director Jack Garner presented the 2025 Annual Report. He highlighted the incidents and responses, grant, planning, and training updates, community outreach, and other topics, including the new EMA website and reorganization of the LEPC. He also spoke about future goals for the department and upcoming training opportunities.

MARSHALL COUNTY FIRE ASSOCIATION

President John Grolich invited the board members to the Bremen Fire Department Appreciation Dinner on Monday, January 19th.

Public Safety Grant: President Grolich stated that local fire chiefs have inquired about the availability of the Public Safety Grant this calendar year. President Harman stated that during the budget process \$400,000 was allocated for the Public Safety Grant Program, with the idea of providing \$50,000 to each department. Each department will need to present a request to the Commissioners for approval.

President Grolich explained the need for situational awareness training for first responders. He requested the 2025 balance remaining of \$21,398.01 be reappropriated to Special Equipment or Projects for this training in 2026. **Greg Compton moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to support the submission of an additional appropriation by the Board of Commissioners in the amount of \$21,398.01 into Fund 9017 Public Safety Grant, Special Equipment or Projects account line. Motion carried 7-0.**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway: No updates.

Job Classification & Compensation: Vice President Cox stated that the job review/new position request submission will begin February 1st and end on April 30th.

Budget & Finance: President Harman provided the board with the 2025 Year End Cash Balances Report for the General Fund, Rainy Day, and Jail LIT. The report highlighted revenue sources.

COUNCIL ITEMS

Ordinance 2026-1(1) Additional Appropriations: The Auditor advertised the Notice of Proposed Additional Appropriation in the Pilot News, posted it on the county website, and bulletin boards on December 27, 2025.

General Fund/Sheriff (1000-005): **Brandon Schadek moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$152,355 into Radios & Accessories. Motion carried 7-0.**

General Fund/Commissioners (1000-068): **Tim Harman moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$2,000,000 into MCRSD Bond Anticipation Note (BAN). Motion carried 7-0.**

General Fund/Public Defender (1000-271): Following discussion, **James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the additional appropriation request as follows: \$2,000 into Expert Witness; \$3,000 into Training (Reimb); \$576,240 into Public Defender; \$30,000 into Administrative Services (Reimb); \$30,000 into GAL (Non-Reimb); \$12,000 into Interpreter-Court (Non-Reimb); \$3,000 into Interpreter-Assist Attorney (Reimb); \$35,000 into Conflict-Hourly Pay Cases (Non-Reimb); \$20,000 into Transcripts; and, \$10,000 into Psychiatrist (Non-Reimb) First Two. Motion carried 7-0.**

Cum Cap Development (1138): **Nicole Cox moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$45,250 into Machinery & Equipment. Motion carried 7-0.**

IOCS Pretrial Grant (9013-007): **James Masterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the additional appropriation request as follows: \$52,126.20 into Wages-Pretrial Intake Specialist; \$60,725.70 into Wages-Probation Officer Pretrial; \$8,633.39 into Employer Social Security; \$12,167.90 into Group Health Insurance; \$365.40 into Group Life Insurance; \$12,639.41 into Employer PERF; and, \$500 into Staff Training. Motion carried 7-0.**

IOCS Problem Solving Court (9015): **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the additional appropriation request as follows: \$1,300 into Incentives; \$500 into Graduation Supplies; \$1,000 into Drug Testing Supplies; \$300 into Peer Recovery Workbooks; \$200 into MRT Books; and, \$400 in Participant Transportation. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2026-2(1): Transfer of Appropriations:

General Fund/Prosecutor (1000-009): **James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$44,208 from Wages-Legal Secretary & Assistant Office Admin into Wages-IV-D Legal Secretary. Motion carried 7-0.**

Medical Benefits Self Insurance (4702): **Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the transfer of \$50,000 from Auxiant Weekly into Health Clinic. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2026-3 Encumbering 2025 Funds for 2026 Budget Year: The Auditor has reviewed and recommended that the following fund encumbrances are reasonable, appropriate, and necessary for the administration of the County's fiscal matters and finances for the 2026 budget year, as follows:

<u>Fund / Account Number</u>	<u>Expense Account</u>	<u>2025 Budget Balance</u>
1000-068 General / Commissioners		
068-30-0205	Dev Disabilities-Marshall Starke Op	\$65,000.00
4101 Park & Recreation		
001-30-0001	West Twp Log Cabin	\$40.00
001-30-0002	Trails of Mill Pond	\$514.57
001-30-0003	Memorial Forest	\$5,000.00
001-30-0004	Arrowhead RC&D - Kayak Launch	\$37.00
8106 Bridge Inspection/Inventory Program		
001-30-0012	Bridge Insp/Inv FY22-25	\$70,471.00
8107 Bridge 11 - N Union Road		
001-30-0102	Construction	\$40,178.21
8108 Bridge 87 - 11th Road		
001-30-0102	Construction	\$532.30
8109 Bridge 120 - Upas Road		
001-30-0102	Construction	\$2,585.60
8110 Bridge 231 - Center Street		
001-30-0100	Preliminary Engineering	\$250,792.99
8111 Bridge 232 - Randolph Street		
001-30-0100	Preliminary Engineering	\$8,342.49
001-30-0101	Right of Way	\$35,075.74
001-30-0102	Construction	\$1,024.26
8112 Bridge 88 - 12th Road		
001-30-0100	Preliminary Engineering	\$165,825.21
8116 COVID19 Bridge Program		
001-40-0080	Machinery & Equipment	\$6,720.00
8118-002 Public Health Emergency Prep		
002-10-0017	Wages-Overtime	\$977.53
002-10-0112	Wages-Emerg Prep Coord/Env	\$10,723.38
002-10-0201	Employer Social Security	\$1,583.21
8119 Bridge 108 - 7th Road		
001-30-0100	Preliminary Engineering	\$133,734.02
8120 20.205 Countywide Striping Initiative		
001-30-0102	Construction	\$392,175.00

8825 Crisis CoAg COVID19 Workforce

001-10-0017	Wages-Overtime	\$6,232.09
001-10-0146	Wages-School Liaison	\$2,793.12
001-10-0201	Employer Social Security	\$242.72
001-10-0202	Group Health Insurance	\$2,742.05
001-10-0203	Group Life Insurance	\$8.50
001-10-0204	Employer PERF	\$195.72
001-20-0011	Supplies	\$19,293.48
001-30-0011	Professional Services	\$898.88
001-30-0073	Travel/Mileage	\$13,929.37
001-30-0074	Training	\$15,006.66

8826 Domestic Cannabis Eradication & Suppression

001-30-0074	Training	\$102.00
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8951 ARPA-Lead Level Reduction

001-20-0138	Other Operating Supplies	\$2,103.01
001-30-0010	Case Management Services	\$4,352.97

9016 IOCS Court Reform

001-30-0010	Equipment Maintenance and Repair	\$1,500.00
001-40-0061	Office Equipment	\$3,760.00
002-40-0061	Office Equipment	\$35,572.00

Brandon Schadek moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve Ordinance 2026-3: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Council Encumbering 2025 Funds for 2026 Budget Year, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance 2026-4(1) Solid Waste Management Transfer of Appropriations for 2025: Marshall County Solid Waste Management presented Resolution 2026-2: Adjustment to 2025 Marshall County Solid Waste Management Budget. The Board of Directors approved the transfers specified below:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
1-11 Director	2-11 Office & Warehouse Supplies	\$203.00
1-12 Education Coordinator	1-13 Hazardous Materials Specialist	\$ 11.46
	3-35 Advertising & Public Notices	\$ 6.00
1-15 Warehouse Assistant	3-12 Buildings & Grounds	\$133.00
	3-90 PPE & Uniforms	\$ 37.00
2-12 Education Program Supplies	3-23 Fuel & Travel	\$138.85
	3-92 Commodity Recycling	\$657.85
	3-95 Household Hazardous Waste	\$515.00
3-22 Communications	1-21 Payroll Liabilities	\$697.07
	1-22 Retirement	\$565.88
	1-24 Personnel Liabilities	\$1,579.03
3-94 Tires	3-50 Utilities	\$1,306.81
	3-91 Universal Waste	\$1,067.77
3-96 Education & Training	2-41 Software & Security	\$354.40
	3-93 Appliances & Electronics	\$349.48
4-42 Technology	3-62 Equipment	\$814.00
	3-36 Printing & Outreach	\$105.00
	3-90 PPE & Uniforms	\$213.82

Brandon Schadek moved, second by Greg Compton, to approve Ordinance 2026-4(1) Solid Waste Management Transfer of Appropriations for 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of December 8, 2025: **Will Patterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the meeting minutes of December 8, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Executive Session Minutes of December 15, 2025: **James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the executive session meeting minutes of December 15, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Special Meeting Minutes of December 22, 2025: **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the special meeting minutes of December 22, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Minutes of December 29, 2025: **Greg Compton moved, second by James Masterson, to approve the meeting minutes of December 29, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Lebbin Law Invoice: **James Masterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the submission of Lebbin Law invoice #1923 in the amount of \$6,900. Motion carried 7-0.**

Cender Dalton Municipal Advisors Invoice: **Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the submission of Cender Dalton Municipal Advisors invoice #12288 in the amount of \$700. Motion carried 7-0.**

Board Appointments: Vice President Cox explained that both Heath Thornton and Terry Borggren expressed an interest in serving on the Marshall County Park & Recreation Board. Following discussion, **Greg Compton moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to appoint Heath Thornton to the Park & Recreation Board. Motion carried 7-0.**

Vice President Cox presented the following list of board appointments for consideration:

Board	Appointee
Culver Union Township Library Board	Amanda Potter
Marshall County Plan Commission	Deborah Johnson
Alcoholic Beverage Board	Maria Keller
MACOG	Tim Harman
MC Economic Development	Nicole Cox
Culver Economic Development	Shannon Lunetta
Fair Board	Becky Carswell
Extension Board	Will Patterson
EMA Board	Greg Compton
Technology Committee	Nicole Cox
Central Dispatch Committee	Nicole Cox
	Tim Harman
Solid Waste Board	Greg Compton
Unsafe Building	Jim Masterson
PTABOA	Phyl Olinger
Courthouse Security	Will Patterson
Board of Health	Matthew Miller (R)
Marshall County Park & Recreation	Heath Thornton
Subcommittee: Highway	Brandon Schadek
	James Masterson
	Greg Compton

Subcommittee: Budget/Finance	Tim Harman Deborah Johnson Nicole Cox
Subcommittee: Job Class/Compensation	James Masterson Deborah Johnson Nicole Cox
ONE Marshall County	Nicholas Witwer

Department First Point of Contact Representatives:

Department	Council Representative
Assessor	James Masterson
Auditor	Nicole Cox
Building Inspector	Greg Compton
Buildings & Grounds	Deborah Johnson
Judiciary	Brandon Schadek
Clerk	James Masterson
Commissioners	Tim Harman
Community Corrections	Brandon Schadek
Coroner	Nicole Cox
EMA	Greg Compton
Extension	Will Patterson
Health	Deborah Johnson
Highway	James Masterson
Plan Commission/BZA	Deborah Johnson
Probation	Brandon Schadek
Museum	Will Patterson
Prosecutor	Nicole Cox
Recorder	Greg Compton
Sheriff/Jail	Brandon Schadek
Soil & Water	Will Patterson
Surveyor	Deborah Johnson
IT	Nicole Cox
Treasurer	Tim Harman
Veteran Services	James Masterson
Weights & Measures	Will Patterson

James Masterson moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the board appointments and first point of contact, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Owner Occupied Housing: Auditor Birchmeier explained that the Commissioners are seeking approval to support a 10% match for the Owner Occupied Housing Program, in the amount of \$52,500. President Harman discussed using the unrestricted opioid fund for this purpose.

Deborah Johnson moved, second by James Masterson, to support a match for the Owner Occupied Housing Project in an amount not to exceed \$52,500. Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

Public input: The attendees did not have public input.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Council, **the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. upon motion by Deborah Johnson, second by James Masterson. Motion carried 7-0.**

Tim Harman, President

Will Patterson

Nicole Cox, Vice President

Brandon Schadek

James Masterson

Greg Compton

Deborah Johnson

Attest:

Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor