

Randolph County Commissioners

August 15, 2022

The Randolph County Commissioners met at their regular meeting at 9:00AM in the Commissioners and Council Room in the Courthouse with the following members present: Board President Michael Wickersham, Tom Chalfant and Gary Girton. Also present was Randolph County Auditor Laura J Martin, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

George Caster – PTBOA appointment

Mike said first item on the agenda is George Caster for the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals appointment. Do you have someone you are going to recommend?

George said yes. I've done a lot of searching and right now, the only person in the room to do it is that one.

Mike said and that would be Beverly Fields.

George said Beverly Fields. She is councilman. I've already made sure that there's no conflict of interest issues with the state or anybody else. She has no ties to the values that have been in place for the last four years. So, she's clear of that. And she is qualified and willing to do it.

Mike said and we can waive certification because you can't find someone to certify.

George said correct.

Mike said anything else you want to share.

George said no sir.

Tom said are any of the other PTBOA board members certified?

George said not one of them. And I've tried to get them that way. I've offered to pay for it. Well I ain't got time. They got lives like everybody else. But I want to at least get them level two, which is pretty simple. You just sit there and do it on line. They just don't have any interest in it. So, it's hard to find members who want to sit here and do this. That's the problem I have with a couple of professionals. I understand their concept. They don't want to lose claims or they don't want to make enemies. But they looked to them and they send me their values as proof. So why not have somebody on your side on the board. But they didn't want to do it. This is the only person right now who has agreed to do it.

Mike said so George is recommending that we waive the certification requirement of the level two or three assessor, appraiser and agree to appoint Beverly J. Fields to the PTBOA board.

Gary made a motion to accept the recommendation and appoint Beverly J. Fields to the PTBOA. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Thomas – LEAP IT Services

Gary Thomas said I'll keep this a little brief. I got a call from Laura that you guys were in a predicament in terms of IT services, and having to move on a pretty quick timeline. I did give Laura hopefully a couple of pieces of recommendation that if you can get them to push out another thirty days, that would be helpful for all parties, even if it's not LEAP. If it's someone else in the industry, you guys needed as much help as you can to make sure you make a good decision, and then that knowledge transfer is going to be highly important. What I just put in front of you on the right-hand side of that folder is just kind of our initial plan and incite would be our organization would need to be learn as quickly as possible to be able to develop a budget timeline, kind of a gap analysis on their thought of what they were implementing in the environment. And then what we would recommend moving forward. And whether that's a phased approach or you know, all in, this is apples, apples, the same. Unfortunately, there's no book in IT of everything's done the same way. That's the biggest challenge. So, I just wanted to at least put my recommendations in place, because I know you guys are on a pretty tight timeline. Then you guys know this is, not necessarily the world where we can you know, delay and have coverage.

Mike said so if, looking at the cover letter of on Thursday the 18th and Monday the 22nd, once you've done that, then you could report back to us what our needs might be, what our options might be.

Gary Thomas said yeah I think the initial on that Thursday would be check out the server environment of the infrastructure, so firewalls, what's happening at a high level. We would run our analysis, tool sets, hopefully Five Star would help us and give us access to the environment obviously, with the approval of you all. That would make sense. And I'm assuming they'd be ecstatic to do that. You know, the world's changed in IT services. It's probably changing faster than everything else combined. Then my homework over the weekend which would be talk about Randolph County behind you guys' back with our team, and put together at least, an initial plan, and some direction. It might not be perfect initially, but we'd be able to I think, at least kind of identify you know, what would it take to deliver services. And those services might be different and look a little bit different than you currently have.

Mike said then we could make a decision to engage your services or not.

Gary Thomas said yes. And you know, the aggressive timeline is you know, we would want to make sure that county is taken of care of and we do our due diligence as well.

Mike said are you familiar with Five Star.

Gary Thomas said I am not. But I did some research on them. I mean, I think they do a good job. I think this, and Laura kind of filled me in as well. This isn't, this is their first foray into municipality work. They do a lot of K-12. I don't like K-12. And they obviously adverse to you know, dealing with government. I also think the world's changed. You know you guys asked for 40 hours for someone to be on site. It's hard to find those type people that want to be in this environment full time. And you know, to be frank and honest, technicians can go out and make a large percentage more just by job hopping at this particular point in time. It is challenging to move culture in with, you know, how do you retain folks and give redundancy to our clients so they can continue to work, no matter if that person's been in the building for a year or two months or. It's a different level of thinking now.

Mike said well I think since Five Star has been with us, we've upgraded our system quite a bit. So, we might not need that 40 hours.

Gary Thomas said yeah I think there's a different in philosophy now. You know, I knew Fred. Fred did a fantastic job. You know, he was, there were things that he didn't want to move to, which I understand his comfort level was you know, on premise exchange for email. Five Star moved you to Office 365, which was a smart move. I went through and read all the board minutes from the last 18 months, which kind of filled in on a couple projects. So, you know, but that's what's important. And I think there's some projects I would probably pause at this point, like the switch approval, the network switch approval that you guys did. I think it was about 12 months ago. I would probably stop that, just to make sure that whoever it is whether it's us or another company that they like the hardware that's been in place and they are going to support it. And four months, to be honest, is a long time not to have that stuff deployed. So, I would have, you know, maybe would have handled projects a little bit differently. Everything's on back order in the world. And it doesn't matter if it's asphalt or IT stuff.

Mike said so do you represent any other municipalities.

Gary Thomas said we do yes.

Tom said counties.

Gary Thomas said not necessarily counties. We do, we do, I'll just kind of, Muncie Sanitary District is one that we were kind of brought into in a very similar situation. You know, they've had some challenges in the past, and we're putting them in a better position. We take care of Tipton, Sheriff, Tipton, city. That also kind of blends into the county a little bit. They have their own, you know, on premise person. We work with them often. So, we work with a lot of larger organizations, but also some two or three-person organizations as well.

Tom said do you anticipate having one person as a point of contact for Randolph County.

Gary Thomas said initially yes. I mean, the position you guys are in, and we would need to gain knowledge as quick as possible and almost have a project manager on our side. I might fill that roll a little bit, but we would definitely have a, I would probably split it up between someone who is fully technical on site with someone who is more project manager, whose, you know,

gathering the knowledge and working with your department heads and seeing what they need, working on budgets, and I think those are two different roles to be honest. And I think that also helps on a redundancy standpoint of you know, all your knowledge in one person, it's a risk.

Mike said Gary do you have any questions.

Gary said no.

Gary Thomas said yeah unfortunately, sorry I apologize about that. That's not fun for anybody.

Mike said do we want to go ahead and give Gary and his firm the opportunity to perform the review that he plans to do Thursday and Monday. Do you want to do that Gary?

Gary said I would suggest that we do that. In fact, I'll that in the form of a motion that we move forward, give them the opportunity, and then can assess their information and their recommendations and they'll know a little bit more about where we're at.

Gary Thomas said even if we're not a good fit, I think we could put you in a better position from an information respect.

Tom said would we pay you just time for those charges.

Gary Thomas said well I typically charge for this to be frank. But in this situation, you know, I want to provide as much value as we can to you, we're going to waive those fees. We appreciate what you guys do in the county. I mean, I'm from Delaware County, I sit on our community foundation board. I'm a dumb farm kid from Wes-Dale and there's a lot of attributes that we want to make sure that we give it a high level. This is one of those things that I don't want to put you guys in a spot where you wouldn't move forward with it. So, we decided to waive any fees for it.

Tom said would we need to put this out to bid since it's over \$50,000.00.

Mike said we don't know that yet.

Tom said we don't know if we have to put it out to bid.

Mike said no we don't know if it's over \$50,000.00.

Tom said I think he knows what we've been paying.

Meeks said I have no idea yet.

Tom said well how come that's not public knowledge.

Laura said it is. It's in the minutes. He said he had the minutes.

Gary Thomas said I did read the minutes. But I mean IT services are, you know, there's certain things you guys are paying for that if we would put in our monthly fees, that you wouldn't have anti-virus charges and things. We want to, we'd make things simpler, a little easier.

Mike said I will say that Wicks lost our IT. Steve Barnes was our IT and he went with New Lisbon Communications. And we interviewed and we hired Gary and LEAP, a year.

Gary Thomas said yeah a year plus.

Mike said yeah year plus again, which they've done a good job for us.

Tom said well I just don't want them going ahead and doing a lot of work, and then we have to put it out for bid.

Mike said I think Meeks said it's personal services.

Gary Thomas said I will say this. Don't feel like I would come and make you make a decision, you know to pick us. I think it's a, this is more of a relationship conversation that almost any other decision you guys could ever make. So, I would hate if you weren't comfortable, that you would select us and vice versa. We'll tell you honestly if this is something that's in our wheelhouse, and after we learn. IT deliverable has changed. And it's changed even in the last six months.

Mike said do I have a motion.

Gary made a motion to allow LEAP to analyze our IT. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary Thomas said Laura I'll be in touch with you.

Laura said okay.

Mike said let us know if you need anything too. I don't know if you know our sheriff or not but he's, I believe, in the back of the room.

Gary Thomas said okay I'll give him a card.

Mike said okay very good. Thank you.

Randy Dunnick & Steve Hall – Albany park project – request for EDIT funding

Mike said Randy, Randy Dunnick, Albany park project, request for EDIT funding.

Randy said I have my County Assessor with me, Steve Hall.

Mike said hi Steve.

Randy said Albany is planning a project for our amphitheater. I believe our attorney John Brooke emailed you this Meeks.

Meeks said I forwarded it on to the commissioners.

Randy said okay. I didn't know if you've had a chance to read that and review it.

Mike said we did.

Randy said we got our splash pad up and going. We've had pretty good success with that. We've had a lot of residents from Jay, Blackford, Delaware, Randolph County enjoying that. And as we develop our park, the amphitheater, we want to be more of a draw. So, we're talking pickle ball courts, we're going to be ordering a sound stage to have a music venue, some corn hole and table tennis. And we're, Steve is going to take over here. He's my money man.

Steve said we look at phase one was the splash pad. We were able to get that in and get that operating. Phase two is the music venue and pickle ball courts. Preliminary estimates for us to complete phase two are in the \$300,000.00 range. So, we're seeking some help from Randolph County because we do have a lot of people coming from those neighboring. We've had the opportunity to ask a lot of people as they come through, where are you from. And even just week, we had a group from here in Winchester, I think it was a developmentally challenged daycare that brought kids over. And we've had Farmland, Parker, a number of people, and of course, then Albany Heights. They're, that's inside our city limits. We received \$50,000.00 in EDIT money from Delaware County. And we do have some ARP funds, some of the other projects that we have coming out of those. We have a street lighting project to the downtown area. We're also putting in a road into the Industrial Park on the West side of town we call Commercial Park. And our estimated share of that is going to be somewhere around \$300,000. So, what the, and then we have a park that we purchase land for that we still need to develop in one of our lower income parts of our community where they have nothing else in the neighborhood for kids to do. So, we have a lot of projects going on in addition to phase two of this park so. We're just seeking help from your, from the commissioners here to help us complete that. I'd be glad to try to answer questions.

Tom said do you own this property as a long-term lease from the school.

Steve said yeah we originally, some of you know, I was a former superintendent of Delaware Community. That land had set there for about ten years. It was a softball diamond. The league folded about ten years ago, and they were just mowing it. So, when we had the idea of doing this splash park, we approached them to do a long-term lease. And through those discussions, they decided to deed the property over to us. So, we own the property.

Mike said and Delaware County put in, was it \$50,000 for the planning and design.

Steve said it's basically the amount they award us for EDIT money for the year for whatever projects. Pretty much that will cover design, architectural fees meeting state fire marshal requirements.

Mike said for phase two. And then the splash pad, how did you pay for the splash pad.

Steve said well we used a combination of money. We went out and sought and received about a \$140,000.00 from a couple foundations. We used some of our road motor vehicle highway, we put a road through there that doubles as a road. That park is dedicated to first responders, police, fire, and that's front-line workers. So, we connect Highway 67 with another road called High Street, so we could put a road through there. We put angle parking on that road, so that allowed us to be able to provide parking. We didn't have money just to be able to put in a parking lot. But we could use one of the vehicle highway accounts for a road. In addition to that, we had built up some EDIT money and we used some of the EDIT. So pretty much, that's how we paid for that. And then we had water and sewer.

Mike said so was, have you requested Delaware County to help with phase two beyond your allotted \$50,000.00 of EDIT funds.

Steve said they are channeling their money that they are giving us through the development of that industrial park.

Mike said okay. So, they're not participating in this phase.

Steve said not in this phase. They gave us \$600,000 for the industrial initially.

Tom said Randy, we were talking earlier, do you know how many Randolph County residents live in Albany Heights.

Randy said there's, I talked to our clerk treasurer and there's about 70 homes out there. So as far as residents, it could be a couple hundred if you do two or three people per house. My sister-in-law lives out there in Albany Heights too, and her husband.

Steve said and I don't know if you remember this, we don't come very often, but the last time you gave us some money was for a sewer project in Albany Heights about \$11,000.

Mike said we gave you \$11,000.00.

Steve said that's correct.

Randy said the water is flowing fine out there so, gets away when it rains.

Mike said do you remember how long ago that was.

Steve said I would say it's three years ago. I've been on the council for four. This is my fourth year and I think it was at the end of my first year, it was I think close to three.

Gary said well this seems to be a project that's moving forward in different phases. And I think it's a project that, from my perspective, when you develop these type of programs in a community it's definitely a positive that helps with the life condition. It helps with growing everything, talking about the splash park. I know those programs do draw a lot of people from different areas. I think these are positive things and I think it's something that needs to be supported, now to what extent, that's something that needs to be discussed in my perspective.

Mike said when do you expect cost estimates, well firm numbers I guess.

Steve said we are working with BLN Engineering as well as a, he's supposed to contact with our architectural firm. But the cost estimate that we're giving you, we think is pretty close. That was provided to us by VS Engineering and we originally planned to do all of the project at one time. But that part of the project came in much higher than we thought, so we put it into a phase two. So, I honestly think Mr. Wickersham, that's a pretty close estimate.

Mike said \$300,000.

Steve said to do it all.

Mike said and that's the music venue, the walking path.

Steve said the walking path is a little bit, that's on hold with the, that would be the first thing that we would reduce right now if we don't have enough, if the bids come in too high.

Mike said so where, if we were to give you \$75,000, where would the rest of the funds come from. Do you have those.

Steve said we have some EDIT funds. We still have a little bit left over from that original and then we should have about maybe a \$100,000 left in our ARP.

Mike said we don't get requested from Albany to help very often. And I would agree with Gary, this seems like a pretty good project. The music venue consist of just a stage, or is it a covered stage.

Steve said it would have a cover, yes.

Mike said have you been to the one in Winchester or Union City.

Steve said we've drove, we've drove around almost every community in central Indiana to look and see what we like and what we think we can afford.

Mike said it looks like, is this it.

Steve said yes, although from that original drawing, it may be just a little to the west and angled a little bit more northeast. That one is kind of straight on. We have the existing building for the

softball diamond on the northeast side. We're going to probably use that to remodel and make restrooms out of and the stage will be out in front of it.

Mike said so what do you think Tom?

Tom said it's a worthy project and again, yeah it's part of Randolph County. It's a little unique, and of course, we have Union City, Indiana and Ohio and then, and I don't, they participate some. I don't think we've done anything for Union City, Ohio, but certainly we have a couple hundred residents of Randolph County that, not all, but some would use this. Do you know how many cities, does this happen very often, how many cities, have the city limits in another county, does that, how unique is that in Indiana.

Steve said I don't know how many. I lived in northern Indiana in the area of Caston took up part of Fulton County and part of Cass County. I'm some familiar with that, but I really don't know a lot.

Tom said I don't know much, how much EDIT money we have available. Laura do you remember the balance.

Mike said I'm just looking at that. We collect about \$54,000 a month on EDIT.

Laura said I thought it was on your spreadsheet Tom and it's not, so we can get that to you. But I don't have it right now.

Mike said if we should agree to support this, and at what level, I think maybe we wait until our next meeting so we'll have a running number on how much our EDIT fund is.

Tom said I agree we should support it to some level.

Laura said it's \$549,000.

Mike said \$549,000. So now we are asking to support the town of Albany \$75,000.00. Even though we've supported a lot of the local communities this year. I think we should support this project.

Gary said I agree and I move that we support the Albany project to the tune of \$75,000.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Steve said and we'll keep, we'll report to you, keep you updated as to where.

Stephanie Lanter – Needs stop sign on her road

Stephanie said outlined in red is the house where my husband and I have just recently moved to with our six children. And we've noticed the traffic on that road is at really high speeds, and you really cannot see our property until you are right on it because we are surrounded by fields and

crops. And I was wanting to possibly get a stop sign at the intersection of West 150 South and 200 West.

Mike said how many children do you have.

Stephanie said six.

Mike said yeah I saw one crossing the road a couple weeks ago when I was on that road.

Stephanie said did you.

Mike said chasing a ball over into the field across the road. Do you know how far you are from county road 200 West?

Stephanie said I do not, no. It's not very far but I couldn't tell you how far.

Meeks said 600 feet.

Mike said pardon.

Meeks said this is right. 600 feet.

Mike said 600 feet.

Meeks said about 550 maybe.

Mike said if it's scale.

Tom said 550 yeah.

Stephanie said I believe if there was a stop sign there, they couldn't get up to such high speeds right in front of my home and my yard.

Tom said are you proposing a 4-way stop, is there a 2-way stop now.

Stephanie said yes.

Mike said which county road, 200 west, I believe stops.

Stephanie said yes.

Mike said north and south. Calvin Williams, have you talked to him about that at all.

Stephanie said uh, is that the house on the corner.

Mike said on the corner.

Stephanie said that house is vacant right now.

Mike said okay and I don't believe, is there anyone else in the mile, on to 300.

Stephanie said no.

Mike said I don't think so. So, you're the only home on that road. A stop sign, from a no stop sign to a stop sign is a pretty big jump. I'm just wondering I mean, it would cost the county a sign. I'm wondering if there would be opportunity to put slow, children at play. And that kind of would warn you about, a driver would warn you about a house being there at least, and would warn you that children are playing. I don't know what the standard for putting those in and how we would go about doing that. I have highway personnel here that probably could help me answer that question.

Stephanie said I've already talked to them.

Mike said have you, okay.

Stephanie said they don't do the children at play anymore because it's kind of allowing them to play in the road kind of is what he explained to me. He said they usually don't do that anymore. That's why I'm advocating the stop sign.

Mike said oh okay. That answers that question. I'm not quite sure I agree with that logic but that's okay.

Stephanie said me either.

Mike said and I don't know that we've had any accidents at that intersection this year. They could tell us that through a research of four or five years. I don't know if you've talked to the sheriff or not.

Stephanie said no but I don't want to be the first accident, so that's why I'm advocating a stop sign.

Mike said I understand.

Tom said that's, is that about a ten-foot jog in the road.

Mike said uh probably. Yeah it's not any, it's about the same as 50 South and 200 West. They both have a little jog in that road.

Tom said now is this the first intersection south of 32.

Mike said yes 50 south and then 150, 100 doesn't run through. There is no intersection between Huntsville Road and 200. If you are inclined to, although this road is not one you can, I would

feel comfortable going a real high speed because it's not in that great of condition as some of our other roads are.

Tom said the state statute says we can't use yield or stop signs, should not be used for speed control.

Mike said really the question would be whether we need a stop there and, not to discount what you're saying, but it relates to the accidents that have happened there. And as you said, you don't want to be the first one. I'm just talking about at the intersection. It's typically the, what you judge a stop sign for. And I would have to, for me, I would have to take it under advisement, revisit that area, because I have driven that road on occasion and I'd like to talk to the highway department about it. And this is the first time we've been asked to do this in my watch.

Stephanie said I'll do anything to keep my kids safe so, it wouldn't hurt to ask, and that's why I did.

Mike said okay. As I said, they weren't playing in the road, they were crossing the road to continue their play in your yard. So that would be something you would want to protect. I don't know, what are you thinking Gary.

Gary said I agree, I think we need to do some more investigation. This is totally new to me also. I've been here for a few years and have not been approached with this, so I don't know what would be best for the situation.

Mike said if we could table it to our second meeting in September, that would be the 19th of September and give us a month to review and talk to the sheriff. I'll talk to the highway department and see where we go. Okay.

Stephanie said thank you.

Mike said well thank you for coming in Stephanie and we'll have you on the agenda for the 19th of September.

Stephanie said okay thank you.

Mike Haffner – Full Time secretary job description, Surplus equipment, utility agreement

Mike said Mike Haffner, full time secretary job description, surplus equipment, utility agreement.

Mike Haffner said I'm going to have Jessica come up. That way if you have any questions on the secretary position.

Mike said okay looks like she's gathering some documents.

Jessica Olson said I'm sorry just my glasses. I can't see without my glasses.

Mike Haffner said basically we've been talking about adding another full-time personnel at the highway to help keep up the stuff. And you know, we're just, we did add it to our budgets and everything.

Mike said this is the job description.

Mike Haffner said yeah.

Jessica said right so I've worked on it with Paula, then we sent it, she got to where she was good. And I sent it over to Meeks and he said everything looked good. I didn't see what changes you made in that Meeks.

Meeks said I think it was just grammar, it was grammar, it was like a period and some other things.

Tom said this is forty hours.

Meeks said it wasn't anything of substance.

Jessica said yes it's forty hours, 7 am to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. So, what I, what we have in the description actually, the things that are currently happening with the individual who's out there now, and then kind of a new aspect I guess for me, in the way we used to write job descriptions, we put in a special training for paragraph in there. Our hope and what we would like is for this person or whoever was in this to be able to train and learn and grow into you know, being able to sit down and do the entirety of the highway job. So that's really what our goal was when we were writing this.

Mike said so in your absence, this person could fill in for you, to do this.

Jessica said that is correct.

Mike said that makes sense. Okay. Well we've talked about the need for the office to need a full-time person because of the complications of the budgets, the state requirements, the granting and the hiring of a part-time engineer adds to the load too. So, we're being asked this morning to approve this job description for a full-time highway secretary. Any questions.

Gary said well I know we've discussed this for a number of months basically, and I think there's been a lot of discussion in reference to the need, and I think it's time now, since you've already planned to put it in, or have it in your budget for the following year, that we move forward on this because the requirements by the state are increasing. With Joe on board, that's increasing the load. And we need all these things, but we also need to have the documentation and the records kept properly and everything up to date and move forward. So, I'll move that we take the recommendation of highway superintendent for the new position of secretary as presented.

Mike said we have a motion to approve the job description.

Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said surplus equipment.

Mike Haffner said surplus equipment and again, we've had a single axel International 86 that's got a bad motor, just basically determined the expense of repair outweighs the needs of the truck.

Mike said so this is a resolution to declare certain personal property of Randolph County, Indiana, as unneeded and to be considered surplus property for disposal. If we pass this resolution, then you can dispose of it. It is, just to make sure, a 7.6-liter 466CIDL6 International. Someone want to want to make a motion to approve the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2022-13

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA, AS UNNEEDED, AND TO BE CONSIDERED SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR DISPOSAL

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners ("Board") is empowered to declare unneeded property to be surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the Board may authorize the disposal of surplus property pursuant to IC 5-22-22 *et seq.*;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board that:

1. Pursuant to IC 5-22-22-8, the items listed on Exhibit "A", attached hereto, shall be considered to be surplus and worthless property ("Property") for purposes of disposal.
2. The value of the property is less than the estimated costs of the sale and transportation of the property.
3. The Property may be sold at public or private sale, and the Board shall allow the Highway Superintendent to sell or otherwise dispose of the Property.
4. Proceeds from the sale of the items set forth in Exhibit "A", shall be placed in the fund from which the item was purchased. If no fund can be identified for a particular item, the proceeds shall be placed in the General Fund.
5. If the Property fails to sell at public or private sale it may be demolished or scrapped, or, if hazardous, be disposed of for recycling.
6. The Property may be removed from the Randolph County Indiana fixed asset inventory.

7.6 L 466 CID L6 International DT466 Diesel
Serial # 1HTGBAARX1H400892
Model Red 2554
Purchase Date: 3/15/2001

EXHIBIT "A"

Tom made a motion to approve resolution 2022-13. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said utility agreement.

Mike Haffner said okay, utility agreement, we've just got a bore under 400 South at 10477 West by Modoc basically, to repair a bad existing line.

Tom said is this Frontier?

Mike Haffner said yes. Yes, this is Frontier.

Mike said are you recommending this.

Mike Haffner said yes I'm recommending this.

Tom made a motion to approve the Frontier utility agreement. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Joe Copeland, Mike Haffner – 500 W Project, Purchase of Paving equipment

Aaron Chalfant – 500 W construction

Mike said Joe want to come on up to talk about purchase of the paving equipment first.

Mike Haffner said it is getting harder and harder to find equipment. And we've looked at several different places, getting somebody that would give us the support if we need it. McCallister's out of Indianapolis is definitely one of the top candidates that we feel comfortable that they would give us the support. But it's finding good used equipment or getting new equipment. And we would like to rent a machine first to make sure it works, but haven't been very successful because nobody has equipment to rent or the one I had planned, ended up selling, and we lost out on that. So, they do, a lot of the companies have, you could purchase the equipment and if you don't want it you know, they will let you back out of it. You know it's like you rent it for a couple of months, and then purchase to own after that.

Tom said 60 days in.

Mike Haffner said yeah a lot of them's 60 days, some of them's even three months, 90 days. So, you can kind of rent to own so to speak. A lot of them have that option pretty much for free. That, if you back out of it, you're going to owe the rent. But it's finding one and putting your name on one right now. A brand new one might not even come in until the end of 23 or the beginning of 24. Now there's some new ones out there on other lots that they maybe do a dealer trade or something. That's what we're looking at. And there's some other paving, you know, we're looking at, really trying to find something that we can get and then see if we can match it up with the service. And we don't have any model number just locked down. We've kind of got a wish list, but we really need, we both have paving projects that are pending because we can't get paving done. And it's just going to get harder and harder. And I think with all these structures going in and it's just getting, and the needs of getting the paver in this county is getting in my opinion, almost a necessary situation to be able to time frame to get this work done. And I'll kind of let Joe give some input on what he thinks the paving. He's purchased multiple different pavers.

Joe said I agree. I've got a bridge under construction now on 500 East and I'm crossing my fingers hoping that I can get a paver on the asphalt over there in time. And I don't have to hold that road closed for any extended period of time waiting on him to get there. All these culverts that we're putting in are probably going to need some asphalt over the top of them, most of them, if not all of them. I've got other bridge projects up in the northeast I'm working on. When they get this bridge done, they're going to start work on those. And some of those, if not all of them are going to require asphalt paving. So, there's a cost involved, and there's also timing involved. Some of these roads with the bridges will have to remain closed until I can get asphalt up to that bridge. So, not all, but several. So, it would help the county I think, if they had a paver. I had one in Hancock that had a Caterpillar AP655 paver, heavy paver, about 42,000 pounds, I believe it was. It worked well. And the service was good I'll have to say with McCallister. We bought a Bomag in Henry. We didn't want quite as big a machine, so far, I've had a little problem with service with Southeastern, but we're not. We need a paver and I needed a certain location, say a bridge or something, we can schedule and we're there. Get it done and get the road open. Small spots, bad spots in roads, we do a lot of what they call, what we call strip paving, and then we come back with a seal over the top of it. We'll double in between the paved areas and single seal over the areas that we paved, to try to extend the life without costing us a fortune. It's the cheapest thing we had, as long as a good portion of the road is in good condition, or fair condition I should say. So, I think it would save the county money.

Tom said what's the price of the paver you're looking at now.

Mike Haffner said I think the budget, you're in that \$450,000.00 area.

Tom said for a new one.

Mike Haffner and we have \$605,000 in that one line, and by statute, it's for purchase of equipment and stuff. So theoretically, there's enough money in that line to buy a paver and a

roller fairly safely. And that was the line that I was potentially planning on using to buy this equipment. Now there's some used ones and anywhere from less than \$50,000, that is total junk, and there's one right now that I'm looking at that's only like \$395,000. It's a used one but, it's not at McCallister's. It's out in Utah. So, and it might be sold. I don't know. But we have to start looking pretty hard to be able to try to find something in a timely manner.

Tom said this fall yet, to use this year yet.

Mike Haffner said I would love to say yes. If I had one, I'd be using it yes. But to be able to get something in that quickly, again that's a wish list. And I'm not saying that's impossible.

Tom said probably wouldn't happen.

Mike Haffner said but if we don't do something here pretty quick, we're going to quickly lose out.

Mike said so the one in Utah, is that one McCallister would support.

Mike Haffner said it's a CAT paver. It's not their dealership, but I'm hoping maybe they can do a dealer trade or stop and buy it and bring it back.

Mike said can they communicate with this dealer out there, find out what condition, that you would trust them to give you a fair statement.

Mike Haffner said already asked them to look into that.

Mike said okay so they are doing that.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said so if they come back and say buy it, will we buy it.

Mike Haffner said I would have all kind times to be able to do that. We can do a source well and that eliminates a lot of time frame. But I don't think any decision has to be made in this meeting. I would like to, hey if I found one, bring it to a meeting as long as it meets the requirements.

Mike said as long as you can keep it.

Mike Haffner said as long as we can keep it or you know, rent it, and then if we rent it, that gives us the, an extra 60 days to be able to legally purchase it you know.

Mike said who is going to operate the paver.

Mike Haffner said that's all got to be trained. And again, we just lost another employee last week that is an employee we really didn't want to lose. But he's moving on to better things and

so again, that plays into the window, I'm not sure what Henry County does with their operators, but I have confidence I can put a team together to run this at least to start the program.

Joe said you can, Henry county would be paving in September and October and maybe in November if we have money left. So, you can send a couple guys over to get acquainted of how we operate ours. No problem.

Mike said we only have 11. With that being said, we should have 22.

Mike Haffner said right now, we don't even have the 11 because we've got some on family medical. So, I really, efficiently, I can't even run a chip seal.

Mike said so if he went bigger and better, bigger and better things, better things, was that better pay.

Mike Haffner said we would need to think about more manpower.

Mike said is that better pay, the guy you just lost.

Mike Haffner said I think it's another skill to bring to the table to achieve better pay.

Mike said no. The employee you just lost.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said you said he went to better things.

Mike Haffner said yes.

Mike said was it because of pay.

Mike Haffner said yes. I've only had one that told me that he was just tired of everything that's going on and it wasn't quite as much pay. He was a little upset with the termination of another employee and the circumstances, and he decided to leave. But the rest of them is all going anywhere from starting out at \$22 to \$25 an hour. I'm not the only county that's losing employees for that same reason. Huntington County, Blackford County just lost employees because Huntington County voted a \$5.00 increase this year.

Mike said what's your budget call for an increase.

Mike Haffner said my budget in, beginning wages would be \$21 and then the middle line would be \$22, which is substantial. Right now, we start out at \$17.49, and I went to basically, \$21, and I'm hoping that might deter a few people to stay but, if things go like it is, I think everybody's got for a CDL driver, they better be looking at \$25.00 an hour in the future, or a benefit package that can equal it.

Mike said well based upon your I guess, recommendation, and, the need and the potential to save the county money, I think the paver purchase would probably be a pretty good purchase. So, I guess I would encourage you to stay on that and hopefully you can have some success there.

Mike Haffner said and you are alright if Joe and I possibly have to go to Nashville or someplace to look at it. Now if it went beyond that, I would get with Tom. Tom even said that he would join us if we can set something up. It's just a major step and it does have concerns but to support everything, we would.

Mike said well I think the culvert replacement alone would be a reason to seriously consider.

Tom said we have the three bridges down there and all the decks, hopefully we could do.

Mike said okay so under your names, you have the 500 West project on the agenda. And under the Aaron Chalfant name, we have a 500 West construction. I'm hoping these are related.

Mike Haffner said they are.

Mike said so with that being said, Aaron do you want to come up and join Joe and Mike, and if you want to bring any moral support, you are welcome to bring them up too. I just would say that we don't want them all up here. Although I would invite Ron up. It's a pleasure to see you Ron in this room. It's been a long time. And welcome back I should say.

Aaron Chalfant said if you're okay with-it Chairman, I'm going to hand out some pictures. The offset right in front of your house that was recently fixed, we've got about three miles of that. So, I guess in comparison, that we're all up to speed with, is the project right here on 32 through town. And where we've pulled out the soft spots, and then put in stone next to it, it doesn't take but about a week before that stone to move away. Where we've cut the concrete, that didn't get pulled out, it's just a bumpy road that contains to break down, so it really needs some attention.

Mike said and this is from where to where?

Aaron said 400 North and 700 North, there's a three-mile stretch through there. So, you've got picture one in front of you. That's north of 600 North. And then pictures two, three and four are between 500 North and 600 North. And then picture four is south of Tom Buckles' house about halfway between 400 and 500.

Tom said that would be south of Olive Branch.

Aaron said right.

Mike said so these are all feeding into 500 North where Stone Station Elevator is.

Aaron said and we've got roads up there in the area that have been reconstructed or redone, 400 North between 500 W and Highway 1. A lot of, or all the concrete trucks that they used to build the hog farms out there come right down 400. That road seems like it's just as strong as when

they put it in over a decade ago. 500 North of 27, down to 200, I don't think there's a road other than 32 feeding Cardinal that sees more semi traffic, and that road stayed strong. On 200 West between 200 and Highway 28, where Stone Station jockeys grain from Ridgeville back and forth. That road is strong. It was, it was repaired right. So that's what we'd like to see done out here on 500. It's evident that when you go back in there and fix these roads right, they can handle the semi. It's, I don't know that there's any farmers other than maybe one or two that I'm thinking of that deal with tractors and gravity wagons anymore. Everybody's got semis. So, we need those roads to, that and I know you like riding a bicycle, it's the one you probably want to avoid.

Mike said I would avoid, I would avoid this road.

Aaron said I told Ed if he's got any survey projects, he probably doesn't want to bring his motor cycle.

Mike said so what's your thought Mike, Joe?

Mike Haffner said I'll give my input, this is a road that we've, ever since I've come in, Tom and I've had several discussions on it. But until we started digging up the soft spots, and actually seen running water underneath the road, and then having to go fairly deep, and then fill it back up with twos. We're doing it right to fix it. But it's, you've got a spot tore up and then you've got a spot not tore up. Now we've done grinding in the past. Again, with my experience, you do what you try to do, and it was a temporary fix. In my opinion, I would not recommend that. So, I'm going to turn this over to Joe. I personally took him out. He's talked to some of the residents. He's seen the spots that we've been digging out personally, and he's kind of got a game plan due to his experience potentially a couple different ways to fix this. So, Joe, sorry I'll throw this in your lap.

Joe said you've got base failure period. I mean the base is terrible. And it's, right now it's sporadic. I mean it's here, it's there. And the problem I foresee, you keep the heavy loads on it, the spots that he's fixing should hold up. He's using like an oversized two I call it and some 53s to put back. It's the places in between that that's the question. Okay, are they going to hold up or are they not going to hold. You can't leave the road in the condition it's in with stone, hard surface, stone, hard surface. It's a nightmare to try to maintain. You try to take a grader up there and grade that stone, you know, it's going to take him forever. And then it's not going to be right anyway. So, it looks like to me you're going to have to put a hard surface of some kind on top of this. There's no two ways out of it. But the question of the day is where those areas in between those base failures hold up. Now you could put an excess amount of hot mix on it and probably, hopefully, get away with it okay. Or you could go up, you could go up and you could tear those spots up, grind them up, lay more stone base and then come over the entire thing. Or you could come in and put cold mix or pug mix over the entire thing, alright. The thing with pug mix, it's somewhat forgiving. It's not like hot mix. Once you lay it, and you get base failure, or base movement, it's, the asphalt's gone. It's going to fail, okay. Hot and cold mix, the pug mix, some people refer to it, will give some, alright. And you're able to, it's cheaper than, per ton, than hot mix, okay. But you've got to lay thicker on pug, alright. If you have the failure, you can correct it. You can go back in on the cold mix and correct it, alright, without saw cutting of hot asphalt and a lot of things like that. And it would, to me, it would be a good training thing to

use the pug because it's so forgiving that if they make a mistake, you can go in with a backhoe or a loader, pull it up, come back and re-lay it, alright. It's not something that has to lay there. You can take it back and put it back in the paver and re-lay it. It's used, they use asphalt emulsion which is made up of asphalt and water. The two have to mix so they put a chemical in there so that the asphalt and the water will mix. Then the water dissipates and leaves asphalt. That's the whole idea.

Mike said so what I'm seeing in these pictures where the gravel is, you're saying that's probably been repaired appropriately, it just needs surface put on it.

Joe said how are you guys getting along with it so far?

Aaron we are, but it's just rougher than a cob.

Joe said the base is holding up.

Mike said the base is holding up. What you're concerned about is where I see the pavement in between, whether that, is there any way to test that.

Joe said well you might test one area and then you go you know, a hundred feet down the road, and you'll get a different test. It, you never know.

Tom said when you're digging up these soft spots, how do you know when to quit.

Mike Haffner said there's, there is a hard clay and when you hit on that.

Tom said you can tell it.

Mike Haffner said yeah, you really can't dig any deeper. Or you know, it's, there is that dividing line that's gray, and Joe had even seen that, and when you're digging with hydraulic equipment, and it can't move, then you pretty much know you've got a hard surface.

Joe said the, there's another way you can do it. It'll cost you a fortune, and that's cement stabilization. Just stabilize the entire roadway. But you're talking hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Tom said where you grind the cement in.

Joe said yeah that's what. It's very expensive.

Mike said what EDPR did on 400, the first phase of the project, or the first windfarm, cement stabilized all those roads.

Joe said another way you could help the situation I think, would be to, you could go in and mill up the asphalt in between, just the asphalt, not the base. And either they mill it up and add stone to it and try to build that base back up by doing that, and then come back. Then you could

maintain it at least with a grader and it won't be so rough. And then come back and pave it later. In Henry right now, we have roads, they're not that heavily travelled and don't have the kind of weight he's talking about, and we'll go in and we'll grind. It might be an old chip seal, and we'll go in and we'll grind up that small area of asphalt on top, then we come in and we add stone. They always like 73s. That's alright. He used 73 stone, laid it, and then we'd let it set over the winter and let it get settled in, then we'd use dust level 4's to keep the dust down. And then the next year, they come back, we'll come back and triple seal. I wouldn't recommend a triple seal on the road that you're talking about, too much weight, too heavy of vehicles.

Aaron said over the years, they've tried to come back in and grind it up, smooth it out, then chip seal over it. And it's only a matter of time before it starts busting up again. And that's, and we've been dealing with that for the last ten years. It's just, there's a lot of grain traffic. There's a lot of feed trucks up and down. It's just, this is, this is a high traffic zone, not to mention all the farmers up there. They're going to use that to cut over and head down to Stone Station. So, something's got to be done. And, I mean, you got three miles there, I mean other than the stone, we keep things looking good up there. I mean half of those three miles are mowed with a finish mower. The other half is hit with a bush hog every few weeks. It's a nice little community up there. We're just dealing with a broke down road.

Joe said how often does the bad places show up, every so often, or is it usually in the springtime?

Tom Buckles said yea, like there in front of my house, ground that up but after the previous summer, busy and every two weeks all summer, and then the following year, ground it all up, but it's beginning to break down again.

Greg Chalfant said Tom's probably got the most consistent spot that just continues to break down.

Tom Buckles said and the job these guys are doing looks good but you walk fifty or a hundred feet from where they're digging, there's another place where the road is caving in and even up at the side ditch. So, they could dig up twice as much as what they're doing right now and still not get all the spots.

Mike Haffner said it's actually several layers of chip and seal. And you know, it's three inches thick.

Aaron says there's spots like that and there's other spots where' it's like that.

Mike Haffner said the middle, you've got.

Joe said what's between it and that gray clay.

Mike Haffner said well mud. Like I said, the areas that was ground that was softer areas, and most, about all them actually got physically dug out a foot or foot and a half, and re-laid in, so the sub base was fixed in all them spots.

Tom said when you get done, do you anticipate this road being higher than it is now.

Mike Haffner said well, that's, right now we can afford to go some height because actually the berm is actually a little taller than the road, and that doesn't help because water lays on it.

Tom said so you don't have to worry about building up too high on the ditch.

Mike Haffner said yeah because that's another thing we want to be very careful because this, the community in that whole three miles, or really, if you want to even add the mile north of it, clear up to 800 where it tees, a lot of these are finished mowers or lawn mowers. And like I said, they take care of that. And if we start building it up too much, then you know, you won't be able to move your road sides or you'll roll the tractor. I had that on my particular road clear up on the windmill roads where I actually had to hire outfits because they built the road too high. But we want to not repeat that if we can. But I think you can build it up three inches with no problem. But what's your thought on the height of the road. How much can we afford to go before it gets dangerous.

Aaron said well it's going to depend on the spot, but you definitely don't want to get that road up there to where it'll shed water. Otherwise, all we're going to do is service another issue that we're going to have later on. With this freezing and thawing.

Mike Haffner said it's not really a high berm because you would really have to go way out there. It's just naturally a little taller sides. The fields are taller, so it's not like there's a little flood area that's hold the water to get to a ditch. It's pretty much the whole road is sunken. Like I said, I think we can afford to build that road up and if we use pug, three or four inches thick.

Joe said at least, and then watch it. If you had something to mill up that areas in between the asphalt, then put stone on, you could do that for the entire road. And then just grade it until you come back with the material for the top, whether it be pug or whether it be hot mix.

Mike said so that's what you're saying is the best way to do it.

Joe said I, here's the thing. You put hot mix on it, you're going to have failures, probably.

Mike said let's take a step back. Grade up the existing pavement and put stone down.

Joe said yes.

Mike said and let that sit for a year. Is that what you're recommending.

Joe said that's where it's heading. I think he is.

Mike said and that would be the best thing short of pulling it all up and putting cement stabilizer down.

Joe said cheaper.

Tom said and have you anticipated we could possibly pave it ourselves, is that too much for us to try to pave with the paver.

Joe said no, do it yourself.

Tom said yeah, the paver you are anticipating buying could do this job.

Joe said oh yeah. The time that when you finish with the stone, and then wait a few months, and all this traffic is running on it, you will see where these bad spots, if they come back, you'll know where they are at. Then you can go back and take care of them if need be.

Tom said then hopefully it will be ready to finish and be done.

Joe said give it some time, right. And then if there are no bad spots, you've taken care of all of them, then come back and put a cover over the entire thing.

Jake Donham said I just want to throw this out there by experience on 300 West where I live. When the dairy came in, and then hog farms, and then solar, 300 took a beating. And I seen every piece of gravel put on that road trying to fix holes, then they come back two weeks later. The only thing they did to that road that saved it is they stabilized it. Put a hard surface under it, 100% fixed the problem. I know it's expensive. It's been three years.

Mike said it hasn't, it hasn't changed for a long time.

Jake Donham said they've got three years. I mean they tried paving it, they chipped and sealed over the top of it a couple different times, with bigger stones thinking that was going to save it. And in the end, the only thing they did was stabilize it and it saved that road. And we've, it's been a 100%. That's a highly trafficked road from 32 to 36. I mean trucks all day long up and down that road. Just throwing out what I've seen in the past. And that road took a beating.

Mike said so this 500 North had stabilizer on it. Do we know.

Aaron said not that I know of.

Mike Haffner said we've dug a couple pipes closer to 27 and in the first three quarter mile, we did run into some concrete. But after you get to about a 100 East, no, and a lot of your traffic from Stone Station is really west of that too.

Mike said yeah that's west of 27.

Mike Haffner said so I have not seen any remnants of cement stabilization. But again, I you know, six years to.

Greg Chalfant said that used to be a concrete road Mike.

Mike Haffner said excuse me.

Greg said going to Stone station, if anybody remembers, old enough, that was a concrete road at one time.

Mike said so if we're going to stabilize it, you'd have to just grade it all up, and put the stabilizer down.

Joe said just have them come in and chew up everything that's there.

Mike said that's what I mean.

Joe said they'll just come and chew it up, add cement.

Greg said you got to add a lot of water.

Tom said do you have any experience with the other stabilizers besides concrete, a little cheaper.

Joe said yeah but here's the problem. If you use, depending on the material you use for the stabilization, you better be consistent. In other words, is it clay, is it stone, you know, what is it. And if you're not consistent, the cement will decay. You won't have to worry about it.

Tom said well no I mean, they have other stabilizers besides concrete that they can rototill into it.

Joe said right, that's what I'm saying.

Tom said okay.

Joe said they, lime was an example okay. But lime doesn't work with granular material, stone. So, you've got to have all clay for that to work. And we don't have all clay. So, it's a mixture. It'll be clay and it'll be stone, or gravel.

Aaron said at the end of the day we'd like to see a safe road, and one that is going to hold up. And I don't know what was done. Was it hot mix done on 400 because that road seems to be proven over the years and all the traffic. You know, you've got Smithson, Hinshaw, Taylor, a lot of those guys have run a lot of trucks up and down that road. And it seems to stay strong. And so, I guess that's what, myself, that's what I came to lobby for today, was to fix it like that road. But I didn't know that there were all kinds of other options that you know, the county has, but it's definitely three miles of failure there that needs addressed sooner than later.

Mike Haffner said I guess where I'm at right now is it doesn't really matter if you are using cold mix or hot mix. I think we've been talking about the sub base and how important the sub base is. And I think even the residents, even though they hate where it's at now, they at least acknowledge that trying to fix the sub base before we spend money on the finished surface. So, I, you know, we can decide later what kind of finish we want cause we just got to decide what are we doing with the sub base. And right now, we've improved the sub base, but we don't

know what these other areas are that was not dug out. Will that bad spot transition a few more feet down the road where we didn't dig out? And right now, it's very tough to just say hey, we're going to dig three miles a 100%.

Mike said so I guess from a project standpoint, is it possible to say okay, from 400 North to 700 North, we want to consider stabilizing, cement stabilizing that three-mile section. Cover it, once done, cover it with gravel, grade it and make it smooth, let it sit for the year, and then come back and pave it. And as an alternative, we want to just grade the paved areas, put stone down on the paved areas, let those sit a year, and we'll find out where the additional soft spots are. We'll go in and shore those up, re-gravel and grade it, and then come back and pave it later.

Joe said I would chew up the existing asphalt before I put stone in.

Mike said that's what I meant.

Joe said oh okay.

Mike said yeah, make it all gravel.

Joe said yeah either way.

Mike said one would have stabilizer in it, which would give us a known factor what 300 West is. If Jake is right, that road gets a lot of traffic. I'm not sure it gets the heaviest traffic as these roads do, which would even be able to say that maybe these roads need more stabilization. But I don't, what I don't know and this was before we were here, was I don't recall 500 North, I don't know when it was done. Sorry I don't remember. I probably wasn't paying attention is why I don't remember, but, my memory is good, my attention span is not. So, I don't know what that means.

Joe said once it's, once it's stabilized and it sets up, I don't think there's a need to go back and put stone on it. I would come right over the top with a hard surface of some kind. Madison County did some stabilization on a road in the eastern part of their county and come back, and they tried to get it smooth. They graded it, and rolled it, and they chip sealed it, but it didn't turn out very well because it was really rough. So, my recommendation would be to, if you stabilize, come back with a hard surface right behind it.

Mike said right away.

Joe said well as soon as it sets up.

Mike said and I don't know what EDPR did when they were here, but their first project, they stabilized them. And I guess I thought it had a gravel surface, and maybe it didn't. Maybe that was the stabilization I was looking at.

Joe said it's just something else you are going to have to maintain. If that stabilization is working, you shouldn't have a problem with laying material right on top.

Tom said how much is concrete stabilization, do you know.

Joe said oh geez, Madison County paid I think they did a mile and a half. And it was close to \$400,000.00.

Tom said so about at least a quarter million dollars a mile.

Mike said if we don't know, we don't know.

Tom said but probably closer to \$300,000 a mile, so that's a million bucks for that three mile.

Aaron said and you're talking the time to stabilize it, then come back with top.

Joe said yeah then you got to put.

Tom said surface on it, yeah.

Mike Haffner said I mean if you cement stabilize it, you might not, you get by with maybe a little less finish. If you didn't stabilize, you would have to go with a thicker finish, and that would definitely raise that.

Tom said yeah maybe one lift it two inches when you are done.

Mike Haffner said two and a half, yeah. You'd save a little money on the finish material, but it's, that cement stabilization, I don't have any way to do it ourselves, so you would have to outsource it.

Greg said is anybody talking about how wide the finished surface is going to be, after all this comes to play.

Joe said the, if you stabilize, you could widen that road to some degree, depending on the culverts and things in the way.

Tom said is that 18 now.

Joe said they can literally widen 40.

Tom said well I mean, how much right of way, is it 18 now.

Mike Haffner said it's probably more, there's probably a few spots that might tweak it, but I'd say the average is probably 16 ½, 17 would be more your average. And then I think we've seen that stabilize it, you could easily stick it out there a minimum of 18 foot. Might be some areas that you can go certainly around the agriculture areas that's, them roads are pushing 20 foot right now.

Aaron said and I think a lot of that stuff, because before we do any work to this road, like I know there's a few culverts that we need to address, and just you know, while we're doing this, before we start in, we'll definitely want to make sure that that, we'll touch base with Ed as far as the water shed, but little stuff like that. If we're going to do something long term here, we definitely want to make it, fix it where it's going to last.

Mike said well until we know what a ton of money is, we're just not going to go anywhere. So, I think we probably need to put it in a formal project for the highway department and see what it's going to cost. One without stabilizer, one with stabilizer. And I think, I don't know if there's any disagreement to the fact that grading it down and getting it all gravel surfaced or stabilized surface, with gravel surface let's say. And the windfarm people, they drove on those roads for a whole year after they stabilized. But you're saying they probably didn't put gravel down.

Joe said they might, they can.

Mike said yes Ed.

Ed Thornburg said when we stabilized the road for Headwaters I, they put about two to three inches of gravel on top after they stabilized, and then maintained, graded that.

Mike said and then did they take that off to pave or did they pave right over top of it.

Ed Thornburg said well they graded it, leveled it, and then paved over the gravel.

Mike said okay, okay. But you are saying that's not necessary.

Joe said I don't see why you need to.

Mike said okay. Yes sir.

Greg said anybody ever compare the cost to pour the concrete, compared to stabilization and asphalt.

Mike said I don't think they have.

Tom said so a \$150.00 a yard, times how many.

Joe said a hundred and thirty, \$130 a yard. I think that would be cost prohibited.

Mike said okay.

Joe said you'd prep it first.

Mike said so can you do that, get us the cost of that project.

Joe said yes.

Mike said anything else.

Aaron said no we just, we'd like something done with that road.

Mike said I appreciate the input. It sounds like, I guess I trust the suggested plan. I trust Mike and Joe to take us in the right direction. I do know, and I'll agree with Jake, 300 West has been there a long time, and it holds up to a lot of traffic. And 500 North seems to be in good shape and it's been there a long time. And I don't know what they did to 500 North. But the only thing I would say is probably 500 North there in front of Stone station, they're not moving very fast when they get in there because there's, they've got to stop. Okay. How long do you think it'll take you?

Mike Haffner said as far as getting you prices, well I would.

Joe said next meeting.

Mike said okay next meeting.

Mike Haffner said yeah for next meeting.

Mike said thanks for coming Ron. Welcome back any time.

Mike Haffner said as soon as I can get them figures, I'll send them to you.

Mike said okay very good. Thank you. Is Stacy White here. Still not here, okay. Anybody from council here this morning.

Jake Donham said Stacy was here at the cancer services. She had called Laura Martin about wanting to look at the rooms at the old hospital. I showed her, showed some rooms to her and another lady, a representative of cancer services. They told me they were going to be, they're open on Friday from one to four, if I remember right. And they were just needing a space to kind of set up shop for their services, what they provide to the community. So, I showed them what rooms we had. There was a room on the second floor where Life Streams was, a double office that they were interested in. So that's why she was on the agenda, but I don't know if something happened and they're not interested or not, but that's why she was here.

Mike said okay well I appreciate the information. Don't they have an office uptown.

Jake Donham said it sold. It was there at Hogg's Barber shop.

Mike said okay. Thank you. Thanks Jake. Okay anyone from council here. Oh, the room emptied, wow. Would to move forward everybody, it's not church. No one from council, the mayor, he's gone. Takes us to other business.

Other Business:

Art Movstner, Randolph County Sheriff

Art said the only thing I have for you this morning is a quick update on the Axon camera system. They will be here tomorrow to start installing the mobile cameras and by Friday that should be finished.

Mike said okay.

Art said all except for there's three vehicles we haven't got in yet. We're still waiting on.

Mike said three new cars.

Art said so beyond that, unless you guys have questions for me, that's all I have this morning.

Mike said are there any questions for Art.

Minutes of May 16, 2022

Mike said okay minutes of our May 16th, 2022 meeting. We received a copy of these via email. Any questions, comments, additions or deletions.

Tom made a motion to approve. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Regular Claims \$1,224,585.82

Mike said that brings us to our regular claims in the amount of \$1,224,585.82. We received a copy of these via email, and I'd entertain a motion to approve them as presented.

Gary made a motion to approve the regular claims as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll Claims \$ 221,236.42

Mike said Payroll claims in the amount of \$221,236.42. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

Gary made a motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Payroll deduction claim \$224,800.39

Mike said payroll deduction claim in the amount of \$224,800.39. I would entertain a motion to approve that claim.

Tom made a motion to approve. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Randolph County United Claim \$18,837.00

Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$1,996.00

Mike said the next two claims are Randolph County United claim, one in the amount of \$18,837.00, and the other in the amount of for the United Tourism claim in the amount of \$1,996.00.

Gary made a motion to approve both these claims. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Baker Tilly Claim \$4,575.00

Mike said next claim is a Baker Tilly Claim in the amount of \$4,575.00 and this is for the professional services rendered for us for the period ending December 31st, 2021. I'd entertain a motion to approve.

Gary made a motion to approve. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Barnes & Thornburg (Riverstart III) Claim \$40,000.00

Baker Tilly (Riverstart III) Claim \$25,000.00

Cockerill & Cockerill (Riverstart III) Claim \$40,000.00

Mike said the next three claims relate to the Riverstart III solar project, one is a Barnes & Thornburg claim in the amount of \$40,000.00. The Baker Tilly claim in the amount of \$25,000.00 and the Cockerill & Cockerill claim in the amount of \$40,000.00, and these I believe, are all going to be reimbursed by the solar.

Laura said we won't actually cut the check until we get that money. This way we would have them done when we get the money.

Mike said okay. I'd entertain a motion to approve the three.

Tom made a motion to approve. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Pyramid Claim \$4,000.00

Pyramid Claim \$233.28

Pyramid Claim \$2,280.00

Pyramid Claim \$8,000.00

Pyramid Claim \$1906.24

Mike said the next five claims are Pyramid claims, which we've tabled for several months and going into a year now. I think based upon the attorney's suggestion last meeting, we ought to just deny these claims.

Tom said I'd so move.

Mike said we have a motion to deny the five Pyramid claims, which are architectural fees from our communications project. Do I have a second?

Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Mike said okay those claims are denied.

Ordinance 2022-22 – third and final reading

Mike said next item is Ordinance 2022-22. This is our third and final reading for the permanent placement of speed limits in the Riverstart I solar project down in the southwest part of the county. And this is Ordinance number 2022-22, an ordinance for the county commissioners of Randolph County, Indiana amending Chapter 71 schedule I speed limits. And I would entertain a motion to approve and adopt this ordinance 2022-22 by title only today. I'd entertain a motion to do that.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-22

**An Ordinance for the County Commissioners of Randolph County Indiana
Amending Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits**

BE IT ORDAINED that the Randolph County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits was amended by adding the following to subsection I:

| <i>Street/Road</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Speed Limit</i> | <i>Penalty</i> | <i>Ord. No.</i> | <i>Date Passed</i> |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| C.R. 600 S | From S Indian Trail Road to C.R. 200 W | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 650 S | From C.R. 400 W to 450 W | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 700 S | From C.R. 500 W to C.R. 200 W | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 850 S | From C.R. 500 W to C.R. 300 W | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 500 W | From 675 S to C.R. 850 S | 45 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 400 W | From C.R. 600 S to C.R. 700 S | 30 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 400 W | From US HWY 36 to C.R. 850 S | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 300 W | From C.R. 600 S to US HWY 36 | 45 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 300 W | From US HWY 36 to C.R. 850 S | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 200 W | From C.R. 600 S to C.R. 700 S | 40 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 200 W | From C.R. 700 S to US HWY 36 | 45 mph | Class C Infraction | | |

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the above speed limits were scheduled to expire on August 1, 2022 and upon the passage and due publication of this Ordinance those speed limits shall not expire and shall continue as shown above until further modified by the Randolph County Commissioners.

Gary made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-22 for the third and final reading and adopt today by title only. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2022-23 – second reading

Mike said that brings us to Ordinance number 2022-23. This is an ordinance for the county commissioners of Randolph County, Indiana, amending chapter 71, schedule I speed limits. And these are reducing speed limits on County road 600 South, County road 700 South, and Indian Trail from the state required speed limit to 35 mile per hour. And this is a temporary ordinance that will expire on August 1st, 2024, and this is our second reading. I'd entertain a motion to approve 2022-23 by title only on the second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022- 23

**An Ordinance for the County Commissioners of Randolph County Indiana
Amending Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits**

BE IT ORDAINED that the Randolph County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 71, Schedule I, Speed Limits is hereby amended by adding the following to subsection I:

| <i>Street/Road</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Speed Limit</i> | <i>Penalty</i> | <i>Ord. No.</i> | <i>Date Passed</i> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| C.R. 600 S | From State HWY 1 to S C.R. 500 W | 35 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| C.R. 700 S | From State HWY 1 to Indian Trail | 35 mph | Class C Infraction | | |
| Indian Trail | From C.R. 600 S to US HWY 36 | 35 mph | Class C Infraction | | |

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the above speed limits shall commence upon the passage and due publication of this Ordinance. On August 1, 2024 the speed limits that existed prior to this Ordinance for the above Streets and Roads shall go back into effect.

Gary made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-23. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Amended ARPA plan approval

Mike said next item is our amended ARPA plan approval. This was dated today, and we added the fuel for the sheriff's department and an EMS vehicle repair. Did we do these. I didn't think we did these. I think we recommended to the council that the sheriff needed fuel. But I don't recall deciding it to be coming out of ARPA. I think we were going to send it to council though. Do we want to take it out of ARPA, which reminds me that it's a continuing expense, and ARPA is only there for so long? I would hope council could find that money someplace to support those fuel bills and the repair for the EMS vehicle. I don't like spending ARPA money for, I guess what I would call every day expenses. Fuel definitely, now maybe repair of an ambulance is not every day, but it's something we still should be able to cover with general budget. We shouldn't have to spend ARPA for that.

Amended EDIT plan approval

Mike said amended EDIT plan approval. Do we want to do that since we're talking about?

Meeks said well we're going to have to amend it again.

Mike said we might as well wait.

Meeks said did they put a timeline on any of those.

Mike said no they didn't.

Airport Board Appointment

Mike said next item is airport board appointment. I've reached out and talked to Owen Griffith a second time, and Owen has come back and indicated he would like to serve on the airport board. Anyway, he's kind of excited.

Tom said he jumps in both feet.

Mike said yeah he want's to learn, but he'll also be able to share. I don't know, if you recall him running for council several years ago. He serves on the tourism commission as well. But I would nominate Owen to fill Bill Richmond's position.

Tom said I would second that.

All aye votes. Motion carried.

Head Start Lease agreement

Laura said I have Head Start Lease, I have DCS proposal to renew and then I have, well I was going to talk about the IT service thing, so that's fine.

Mike said okay.

Laura said here's the Head Start.

Mike said what should we know about the Head Start lease.

Meeks said it's \$750.00 a month. I don't know if that's what you guys want to do or not. I guess that's the question.

Tom said that's the same as last ten years.

Meeks said I'd have to ask Laura how much it was before. I don't think we've changed it. I don't think we changed it.

Tom said I'd think we would want to increase, utilities and everything else, whatever we increased everybody else.

Laura said I know they requested it to stay close to the same amount, but that was their request.

Tom said is that Federal funds, Head Start.

Gary said yes.

Tom said I'm sure the Federal government's increased their budgets for Head Start.

Gary said this is a private company, not for profit, is taking it over.

Tom said yeah but it's a government, they have a government contract to run Head Start.

Gary said for a few months.

Meeks said we could bring Jake up here for a second. I forget, was this the one with the, had their own restrooms.

Jake said yeah so actually, I got a print of it.

Mike said it's attached to the lease here. We have a print.

Jake said it's the same one as.

Mike said 1682 square feet.

Jake said I don't know if that's the same one. Yeah I think it is. Because when they first came back, they wasn't sure what, the new company wasn't sure or real clear on what they were using in the past. And so, they picked what they wanted and we added the corridor on there and they were okay with that because that's a major part of their facility as well.

Meeks said they added a corridor, I'd have to check that.

Tom said then do they control the corridor. It's now open to the public.

Jake said correct. Pretty much.

Meeks said are there lockers in there or something.

Jake said yeah they kind of have a locker situation in there for the kids. But it's actually a hallway, but it's an emergency egress as well. So, they can't lock it by any means, the one direction, but they definitely use it and they use it for kind of one-on-ones with the kids as well. There's a table in there and stuff. The only question I had, that whole area is still under lease with the other company. And I don't know if they can really, if he can write another contract while it's still under contract with someone else. I don't know.

Meeks said well they're going to have to terminate the other one. I think these people are taking over so that, I'm not too concerned about that part. Once we get this worked out, I was going to have then give me a termination about that.

Mike said it's \$5.35 a square foot. That's pretty cheap.

Meeks said I can tell you DCS was paying \$10.73.

Tom said well that was, that was how long ago.

Meeks said that was, I think that's what they are paying now.

Tom said okay is that like a 5-year lease or.

Meeks said uh, four years. I think it was four years.

Tom said that was four years ago when that was negotiated.

Jake said and that one, I'm not.

Laura said that's the one we have to work on the proposal. Then the one we just raised, and I don't remember what unit that was, but it was around ten we raised it to.

Jake said I think it was Centerstone maybe just got adjusted.

Laura said yeah to ten something, yeah.

Mike said so they were with DCS.

Jake said no.

Meeks said no.

Gary said CFS.

Mike said CFS.

Jake said yeah Child Family Services, which housed the WICK program, Energy Assistance and Head Start were all umbrellaed in that one area.

Mike said and what was that tenant paying for that area.

Jake said I don't know.

Meeks said I didn't bring that analysis.

Jake said I don't know if I have the original on that one or not. I don't think it was.

Laura said it was all under that same company.

Jake said yeah.

Mike said I'm saying currently if they pay \$750 a month, that's \$9,000 a year at 1682 square feet is about \$5.35 a foot.

Jake said the contract I have, the only one I have for that wing is from a file way back from 2003. They were paying \$13,000 a year for 3,576 square feet, which came out to \$3.63 a foot.

Mike said well I think it's changed since then.

Jake said that, I couldn't tell you.

Mike said well I think we need, we need to verify what they are paying now. Can we do that, what that whole wing is paying us in rent right now. For three thousand, how many square feet.

Jake said for the, this is the original contract, so I don't, I haven't measured it to see if it's exact, but it was 3,576 square feet. It was \$13,000 a year for \$3.63 per square foot in the monthly installments of \$1,083.34.

Meeks said I have a spread sheet.

Jake said now there's a renewal here. The agreement renewal period, tenant shall pay the sum of \$14,000. It's got a renewal on here, but I don't know if that's what they are paying.

Laura said those have not renewed for a long time.

Mike said have not.

Laura said huh uh and I'm thinking this is the one I have too. You and I went over them, remember.

Jake said yeah. I don't think CFS has paid for a few months, when I checked with Lora Simmons, because I was trying to figure who was under what when they started this. And I don't think CFS has paid since March anyways.

Laura said well and they brought in a check for the amount that want.

Jake said the new Head Start. I think they like that price because it's pretty eager on dropping that check off pretty quick.

Laura said I told them that it wasn't up to us to decide the price so it may be a partial payment.

Mike said that would have renewed again in 18.

Laura said yeah and I don't think it did. I think we sent them a renewal and they never signed it and sent it back. I can go down and print that spread sheet that Meeks sent me if you'd like.

Meeks said I'm not sure it's accurate.

Mike said I think we should look at that. I mean, if we charge Head Start what we're charging.

Meeks said it's twice as much.

Mike said twice as much. That's a big increase. I think this would be time to give us consideration because we've got to consider the other one as well. And they're at \$10.00 a square foot, but they're paying, we're paying 4%, based on that lease, we'd be paying 4% back to their agent.

Jake said the only thing I would say on Head Start is they're going to be, with that commercial kitchen in there, they're going to be using a lot more water, a lot more electric than just office space. So, I don't know if that would be something to consider as well or if it's just a square foot price. I don't know how that works. But they're going to be a lot of restroom visits with kids too, so there're going to be a water usage on the Head Start side versus the office.

Mike said right. So, I think we need to review that spread sheet, see what our tenants are paying, and then tell Head Start what we think would be a more fair rent than 532 if it is a more fair rent. Then we could be in a position to talk about the the other one, proposal.

Jake said yes, DCS.

Meeks said I think the only thing on the on the DCS proposal at this point, is the rental amounts, because I think I've answered all the rest of the questions. Jake did.

Jake said we tried to as best we could. The only discrepancy on that one is from the original lease to what I got, is I think there's over a thousand square foot that they've never paid rent on, on DCS. And when we asked this in 2018, they came back, that's when they wanted to renew this, or this resource company took over for the state managing that property for them. And so, they done a building evaluation. They came back with a wish list of things they wanted to do to the building, and so when I measured it up, I couldn't come up with what they had. Mine was a thousand over, and so the only, and I had Randy Abel double check my measurements. And there's a whole wing there that they've used all along and I don't think they've ever paid the first time on. So, in 2018, we sent this back to them and we never heard anymore.

Mike said so does this lease have it in there then, the thousand foot.

Meeks said we added it to that proposal.

Mike said okay and they've accepted that.

Meeks said well we haven't sent the proposal yet because that's the one I sent out.

Mike said okay. That's the from 4187 to 5448.

Meeks said yeah.

Jake said I got a print showing that one, too I made this morning, to give you an idea of what it is. In the blue is what they're using now. And over here, it's, there's a break room, storage area, and then there's an interview room where they can take kids in, get their views, and a two-way window so you can have an officer and their caseworkers on the other side as well. Not the only thing I don't know is I've never seen any other contractual stuff for that space.

Meeks said I don't think there is.

Jake said I don't think there is either. So, I wondered, almost wondered one time if someone else managed that besides DCS, but I don't think they did.

Mike said okay so you have 5468 and our proposal says 5448.

Jake said they were just close. This morning when I was measuring those, I just used a scale really quick and just shot it.

Mike said so what we need to determine then is if we want to send this response back to them with the changes that you made and the only thing that we haven't really responded to is what the rent would be.

Meeks said why don't we send it back to them and just say as to rent, to be determined.

Mike said okay. That works for me, because we need to really consider all of our rent before we do that.

Meeks said so why don't I do that and if I need to sign it, I'll sign it, and send it back to them and say, I'll just sign it as the attorney if that's okay with you guys.

Mike said I guess I would, under your paragraph 18, agency, we would like to discuss this further. It's unclear why the county would pay this and not DCS since they was hired by the state, I would say so at this time, we would like this removed from the lease.

Meeks said an explanation, we should discuss further. They could come back and tell us why, because the state has a constitution that says you have to.

Tom said well we want to make sure they discuss it.

Meeks said well let's, or we could say well we'll just do a rent with whatever it is, a lump sum up front.

Mike said okay so we'll take that up at our next meeting. Jake. I'll get that back to you. One other thing on the agenda.

Laura said well so this morning I got the email from Five Star. Most of those are just copies of contracts giving us until September the 12th. And then I also talked to EKeepers. They're out of Muncie, Delaware County, as another company that would do our IT services. But without knowing how many users we have, it could be \$3,000 to \$6,000.00 to do an assessment of our system. But then we would own that assessment and could use it if we didn't choose them, we could it too to provide information to someone else. But it sounded like Leap may be able to do that and waive their fee. So, I don't know that they'll give us that assessment.

Tom said have you talked to the third one?

Laura said I already contacted them and they never called me back.

Tom said now what's their name again, Dell Tech.

Laura said something like that, yeah. I didn't know any of them.

Tom said so that was Scott Jordan started that from Modoc.

Laura said yeah they never responded back to me when I contacted them. I sent all three of the companies that Five Star sent me, the same message, and the two, LEAP and EKeepers have both came in and talked to me. And then also, Taylored Systems who does our phone system, has an IT service and I think they're going to, a guy's going to come in. I have it on my calendar, I think it's Thursday that he was going to come in and talk to me to see what we were wanting.

Mike asked do they do municipalities? Do you know?

Laura said yeah I don't remember Mike if they said they did it. They were interested in doing it, but whether they have done any municipalities I don't know.

Tom said would a county be very similar to a municipality.

Mike said probably more similar than a power company.

Laura said and I'm sure these guys would come in and talk to you. I didn't think to ask them if they wanted on the agenda. Gary asked me could he be on agenda, so I put him on there. This guy didn't ask and I could call him and see, if you guys want to talk to him, I can have him come in and talk to you, whatever you want to do. I just wanted to let you know where, you know, where we were at, and like I say, I just got that email this morning when I came in from Five Star.

Mike said well I think we'll wait and see what LEAP provides us for free. I mean I would think we could, that would be an analysis of where we are, and their take on where we should be. Okay. Anything else.

Laura said I have, this was just given to me this morning also, it's the March 2022 Treasurer's Report. There's three copies. Why they give us three, I don't know. But if you just want to sign one, then I can make copies and get it back to them.

Mike said it's been so long since we done this, do we review this or we approve it so. I guess they gave us three copies so we'd each have one. We usually get an email.

Laura said you only need one signed.

Mike said we usually sign two.

Laura said okay.

Mike said since it balances. I'd entertain a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Tom made a motion to approve. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Laura said and then I have three sets of permanent minutes I need signed.

Mike said Meeks do you have anything besides the leases.

Meeks said excuse me. No, I do not.

Tom asked when is the budget hearing?

Laura said 23 and 24th I believe. I can tell you.

Tom we will be at nine o'clock on the 24th.

Laura said 8:30 is when we start. Yeah the 23rd and the 24th are the dates.

Mike said where did she put that on.

Laura said I don't know that she's given out that schedule yet. I could check with her on that and email you.

Mike said okay. Tom do you have anything for us.

Tom said yeah the signs are up out at Missinewa River, the old sign that blew down, tourism replaced, for the three soldiers there north of the Missinewa River on Highway One.

Mike said I must not have been here when you talked about that.

Tom said they got new signs up.

Mike said okay. Anything else.

Tom said no.

Mike said Gary.

Gary Girton – Communications project update

Gary said the pagers. I guess the comments I've had from different ones, they feel that it's important that we contribute some to if we're going to do anything. The numbers that we had were strange. What did we have, two hundred and some pagers requests. Each municipality, to my knowledge, at least, I would think would have to turn in to their insurance company, a number of volunteer firemen they have. Why don't we go off of that insurance paper, rather than just off of their verbal request?

Mike said I think we should have that confirmation of what that would be.

Gary said some of them that I've talked, I've been at meetings and they've turned in these numbers are way less than what we are seeing.

Tom said well yeah, we've been deceived you know, early on. I mean we were told you know, what we pay, or we don't need radios, they don't need pagers, we build the towers and everybody's good to go. And now they need 27 pagers or 25 pagers in Saratoga.

Mike said well some are working and some are not. And they work intermittently. But I think that would be a place to go as to get that. And I suppose to get that, we would talk to I presume, the chairman of the fire chiefs' association, because he called the meeting that I went to, and we just ask Jimmy to provide us that information. And I could do that if you want me to.

Gary said well I think we need to if we're going, that's our position at the present time, that there will be no contribution to radios, only to pagers.

Mike said well I think if, if I'm correct, if we install mobile digital radios into the sheriff's vehicles at a cost of \$56,173.00, that would free up a VHF channel for the fire department to use their VHF radios more efficiently. Is that a fair statement?

Art said that was, at least what I took away from the meeting.

Mike said so that would be an alternative to providing them with radios.

Tom said sounds like a cost-effective alternative.

Mike said yes.

Gary said and that's going to work. And I understand too, I didn't get to talk to Lonnie over the weekend, but the highway's having trouble since supposedly according to their Motorola people. When the antenna was adjusted and put in the range of their licensing, it's not working because it's not straight, it's not working on the eastern part or the western part of the county. So, I think

that needs to be addressed too. We need to have Motorola; the highway people get with J&K and see whose going to make that correction. J&K I understand, said that would cost another \$1,500.00 to do that. But then their people did it in order to adjust, before, I know J&K is wanting to close this.

Laura said I don't always see them. I can check. Donita takes care of them.

Mike said so what are you suggesting we do.

Gary said well somehow, before J&K tries to, and I don't know if they're trying to, before they complete and say that they're done, and here it is, that we need to have that issue corrected. And so, I'm going to give Lonnie a call this afternoon because he was working on that to see if that's true. If it is, get the Motorola people to sit down with us and J&K and work this out. And then J&K's got to let us know, they told you what last week was the last week they were going to let you have that price.

Mike said well they said the project is going to be done the week of our last meeting, which would have been August the first, so it would have been August the 5th I believe was when they indicated they would be done. But I don't know that they are.

Gary said they ought to be.

Mike said Art do you know if they're done.

Art said I do not. I apologize. I was out the last three days of last week, so I haven't had a chance to talk to Chris either to see where they're at, but he would have that information more than probably, I would.

Mike said well if the highway department is not getting the coverage they used to have, then we need to resolve that too.

Gary said we've got to get that fixed.

Mike said whether Motorola solves that J&K solves that. But that has to be done before they're done.

Art said I don't necessarily disagree. I guess the question I would have is the highway part of the original J&K project to begin with, because I think that's the question J&K is going to ask.

Gary said well the point is that J&K moved the highway's antenna in order to help with the VHF columns they had initially, and it helped. But they also moved it because of the licensing. The antenna was incorrectly, in the incorrect space. So that's going to be a discussion.

Art said so it's currently in the incorrect space.

Gary said no it's correct now, but it's according to what I was told a week ago, that it's not straight and the Motorola people are advising the highway department, put their system in, says it needs to be straight in order for it to function correctly. And so, J&K says it's going to cost \$1,500.00 to go up there and adjust it. And whose going to take care of it, and whose going to correct it, and whose going to say if it was your fault or our fault. So, I think we just need to get all of them together and work this out in my opinion, particularly before J&K says they're done.

Art said and with that, I guess I would ask did J&K charge us to put it up initially. When they moved the antenna, was there a fee for moving that antenna.

Tom said I'm guessing there was.

Gary said I'm guessing somebody paid.

Art said I'm just curious for that, if it was done incorrectly, if they paid for it.

Tom said I thought the highway was going to have them to do that and pay for it, but I'm not sure.

Gary said I'm not sure.

Art said I wouldn't be privy to that. I think that's one of the issues you are going to get into.

Gary said right but we just need to get it resolved.

Art said sure. I don't disagree with that.

Tom said we'll pay them if we have to, if it's our, if it's our issue.

Gary said right. We've got to correct the issue.

Mike said okay.

Gary said but if you could check with Chris and give us an update.

Art said I'll have Chris send you an email as to what his knowledge is of where they're at with it.

Gary said with everything, yeah. Thank you.

Art said you are welcome.

Mike said anything else.

Gary Girton, Broadband tower update

Gary said yes. You may have received an email from the technology department. Had a meeting last week.

Mike said I received an email from Joe Batt, but I think it was before the meeting that you had last week. August 5th, would have been Friday. And that was a copy of an email we sent to Steve Barnes. I've not received an email from Joe Batt since then.

Gary said okay. This is in reference to his notes on a discussion of the technology committee. And there was a fair amount of discussion about the northwest tower. And, just let me read what his notes were. After extended, after said discussion, it was obvious that support for the project with the members present has waned, and therefore, they were not recommending.

Tom said they are not recommending what.

Mike said the northwest tower.

Tom said to do away with it.

Gary said or not continue to proceed with it.

Mike said were you at that meeting.

Gary said yes.

Mike said is that your take as well.

Gary said yes.

Mike said and what's the reason for that.

Gary said the big thing was the lease cost going out twenty years or so was going to be another 120 or a hundred so thousand dollars onto the cost. And their only projecting it potential of 70, 75 customers. And with the new technology coming on, with fiber being put around the county and so on, by different companies, that.

Tom said how far out do they anticipate that power working.

Gary said I don't know. New Lisbon was the one that did the propagation as far as of the signal.

Mike said customer potential is what New Lisbon did.

Gary said well as far as how far out it would project, they did that study. I don't know as far as the numbers they were giving us.

Tom said yeah, it's, I mean I'd be about only two miles or so I would guess, to 75 customers.

Gary said that's right. That tall of a tower should project up to five mile.

Mike said you'd think.

Tom said I mean that would get in Albany Heights, Fairview, in that area there.

Gary said those are the numbers of New Lisbon that gave us the 75. They said 100 max, but.

Mike said and they were the ones.

Gary said that was potential. That doesn't mean that they, all the people would.

Tom said so long as that many people could be reached, a certain percent wouldn't subscribe.

Gary said right.

Tom said well that's, there are a lot more people up there than 75 or a 100.

Gary said I don't know. I'm just going off the figure that they gave.

Mike said they're not willing to lease space on the tower.

Gary said why.

Mike said New Lisbon, if we build a tower, they wouldn't be, it's not profitable for them to lease space on the tower.

Gary said it's not.

Mike said that's what they're saying I presume.

Gary said they're going to, they're going to lease it but they don't want to pay us \$200.

Mike said that's what I mean. They don't want to pay us anything. And originally, they were going to pay us \$200.

Gary said well they're still going to pay it. They're still willing to pay \$200.

Mike said they are willing to pay \$200.

Gary said that's all the income we would have.

Mike said so why would, why would they be going to pay \$200 if they only have 75, I guess I don't, I don't quite understand why they would be against us building a tower.

Gary said well they're not. They just don't want to pay anymore money than that to put their equipment on, because they said, because they said they were going to put all of their funds into other areas, whatever that meant.

Tom said and they, but they would pay \$200 a month for twenty years. Is that, would they agree to that, or do they just want a one year or five-year lease.

Gary said no. It's re-negotiable after two years. And that was the proposal. Nothing is signed.

Mike said so we would have to subsidize it for the first two years at \$300 a month basically. If it cost us \$500 a month.

Gary said it's either 3 or 4 a month, because they were talking about.

Mike said and then has Tower King saying we can't get anybody else.

Gary said for broadband, no.

Mike said they're saying we can't.

Gary said Watch and the others they've communicated with are not interested.

Mike said they're not interested in anything.

Gary said on that tower.

Mike said what about telephone companies. Did they say anything about that?

Gary said we've asked him about that and that's, they're kind of upset because we haven't told, upset because we haven't told them to go ahead and build the tower. But we haven't seen them bring forth to us any information if there's anybody in the cell tower, in the cell area interested in putting equipment on the tower, which I think they could determine if there was anybody interested at all.

Mike said well if our technology committee is telling us not to build a broadband tower in the northwest part of the county, then I would say we don't go build a broadband tower.

Tom said well at least without some kind of further study or something.

Gary said well yeah I think, I don't know.

Mike said I guess you know, on that side of it is that with fiber coming in and with star link, Elon Musk star link, that's becoming a growing thing.

Tom said that's line of sight.

Mike said it's a satellite.

Gary said it's a satellite.

Tom well it's, but anybody can receive a satellite with the right equipment.

Mike said if you sign up for their service, they say it's faster than fiber, the people I've talked to that have it.

Tom said how much is it, do you know.

Gary said it's a \$110.

Mike said is that right.

Tom said a month.

Gary said \$110, that's what I was told.

Tom said that's a total of whatever, you can just, a \$110 for whatever you want.

Mike said it's your internet connection.

Tom said so that would be unlimited and everything so.

Mike said and I guess if the, again, if the technology committee is saying that we probably shouldn't build a tower, I'm not sure, unless we want to subsidize a tower.

Tom said well we have to decide what we use it, feasible or fruitful you know.

Mike said I wouldn't have a problem subsidizing it for a while, but after two years when you've built your customer base, I would think that you wouldn't want to have to subsidize it anymore.

Tom said yeah.

Gary said I agree.

Mike said and if we can't, if we can only get one provider on the tower, and they're not willing to pay any more than \$200, then it's pretty black and white that we're going to have to subsidize it. Any discussion about single point of contact or any of that, broadband ready community.

Gary said we discussed that but they didn't come up with any names. The guy, he's there from an organization, I forget what his group is, according to him, he has connections with, he's on top of all of this. That's his job to travel to this part of the state, and he was getting us some information from Rush County. They have that whole setup down there. He's getting that information back for our next meeting.

Mike said okay. That sounds good. Do you have something.

Ed Thornburg, update on 500 S and 500 E

Tom said since the Drainage board doesn't meet, I wonder if it would be appropriate to have Ed to give us a one-minute update on 500 South and 500 East.

Mike said go ahead Ed.

Ed Thornburg said the first pipe is in, and if I can get them to come up, I have pictures.

Tom said it's deep down there. It's hard to see the culverts.

Mike said we talked about it being deep.

Ed Thornburg said yeah it's a deep hole.

Mike said and the first pipe is a used pipe.

Ed Thornburg said they took the pipe that was, on 500 East, they took the existing pipe out, deepened the channel and put it back. I was on site the day they were putting the last band on.

Mike said that was the best-case scenario for that one.

Ed Thornburg said yeah absolutely. Best case scenario for that. That's the crossing, that's what that little strip of road looks like now. You go each way and see some of the, I got pictures.

Mike said yeah that's some pretty good dirt going on there.

Ed Thornburg said yeah lot of dirt. There's a lot of channel.

Mike said okay. Good. A long time coming.

Tom said yeah a pretty big hole.

Ed Thornburg said yeah it's a big hole.

Tom said and they'll do the next one this week.

Ed Thornburg said he was talking like he was going to start today.

Mike said and that's a new pipe.

Ed Thornburg said he's going to attempt, he thinks he can put the old one in.

Tom said well that was a newer culvert right.

Ed Thornburg said yeah.

Tom said it's just a year or two old or three.

Ed Thornburg said that one there was like ten years old.

Tom said oh the second one was.

Ed Thornburg said the other one is at least fifteen.

Mike said oh good.

Ed Thornburg said now it's not, it's not going to be quite as exciting because it's not quite as deep. But it's also a hundred feet long. So far, it's going better, I'll be honest, better than I was thinking.

Mike said well good. Well I know we were concerned about him getting it out and keeping it intact.

Ed Thornburg said he's got a grandson helping him and then his father-in-law, Rex and Wade are both, they verified elevations for him, and figured.

Tom said well I hope they're done right.

Ed Thornburg said yeah, I'd say he's getting good, it looked, the pipe really looked good for the inspector.

Mike said okay.

Mike Wickersham – Award interviews, Internships for age 18 and over

Mike said I have a couple of things. If you recall two weeks ago, we were to have video interviews for our Association of Indiana County awards. And you couldn't be there. You were my first choice. You were my second choice. And you could have been there, but they cancelled it. So now they're Wednesday at 2:30. And I need one of you to be there to talk about the bridge 85 safety award.

Gary said that's Tom's area.

Mike said 2:30 on Wednesday. We're going to meet outside the auditor's office in the hallway there.

Gary said that's Tom's job.

Mike said okay. And then I was going to interview for the other award for the county cooperation, but if you want to do that, you are welcome to do that. For your information, Joe, Mike, you, Jimmy Tharp, myself and Gary Friend are all going to participate in these interviews. Then the final thing I have is, I've been questioned about opportunities for high school interns to work for the county if they are 18. I have somebody that's interested in working in aircraft

mechanics, so they would be working at the airport with Eric. And I don't, the first time I've had a request like that, and I didn't know if that's something we should approve, if we can approve.

Meeks said I think you go before the airport board and see if they want to.

Mike said well that's what I, I know that, but it's, I think the question is generally does the county allow for internships.

Meeks said we have not.

Laura said are these paid internships or do you know.

Meeks said they are volunteers but that's, you have to be over 18.

Mike said I think you probably, typically Jackie, they get paid don't they, interns.

Jackie said we have some of both right now.

Mike said some of both, so we could, yeah, that would be something for the airport board to decide if had the budget.

Meeks said if they're over 18 and if they want to.

Tom said is our insurance okay.

Meeks said our insurance will be fine.

Mike said or 18 or over.

Meeks said shouldn't be a problem.

Mike said okay I'll give them, and my first response was the airport board would have to make that decision and obviously.

Tom said they would need out approval first I'd think.

Mike said well he just wanted to know what our status was, and I didn't know. Okay.

Meeks said we generally don't have them because they're usually not 18.

Mike said okay. So, do we have any citizens here that would like to make a comment.

Citizen Comments

None

Adjournment

Mike said hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Gary seconded. All aye votes. Meeting adjourned.

Reviewed and signed this 17 day of October, 2022.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS





ATTEST: 

Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County