

Randolph County Commissioners

July 18, 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 and Tom Chalfant. Also present was Randolph County Chief Deputy Auditor Sherrie Timmons, Sheriff Art Moystner and County Attorney Meeks Cockerill.

Michael Wickersham, President presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Paula Albin - Trainee Payroll Deputy position

Mike said first item on the agenda is Paula. Trainee payroll deputy position. Do you have a job description for us?

Paula said yes. It was my understanding it was sent to you.

Mike said well I have a copy. Do you have a copy of this? Do you believe that this job description as written will train up a replacement for you, and serve the county as well as you've served the county for all these years?

Paula said it is my greatest hope.

Mike said okay is there anything needs to be added to this job description.

Paula said not that I can ascertain.

Mike said okay do you have anything you want to add.

Paula said good luck.

Mike said Tom do you have any questions.

Tom said I would move we accept this job description.

Mike said I have a motion to accept the job description. I'll second that motion.

All aye votes. Motion granted.

Paula said thank you.

Grace Minkis – Riverstart Solar Park III & EDPR Fiber Agreements

Grace said we don't have much to discuss today but just wanted to come just in the event that something unfolded over the weekend. Meeks, I know we had spoken on Friday. I just wanted to double check the

plan to still meet Thursday hopefully. I got the revisions for the EDA from Rick last night. So, the goal is to review any revisions made to the RUA, EDA, DECOM this afternoon. And then hopefully, we can provide any feedback. And that would go to Rick, is that correct Meeks.

Meeks said yes, copy me on it.

Grace said okay. Do you think his schedule will allow for any revisions or any comments we might have Thursday?

Meeks said I do not personally do not schedule his schedule, so I have no idea, but he said that we're going to get this done.

Mike said it should be a priority to him and I hope he would give it the attention it needs to be given so we could.

Meeks said well he told me it was.

Mike said so we can make decision on Thursday.

Meeks said I told him we are making a decision on Thursday.

Mike said we are going to schedule a special meeting Thursday at 9:00, July 21st. Does that work for you? I think it works for Gary. And it's probably a good thing since Gary isn't able to be here today because I'm sure he'd want to be involved in these discussions as well.

Grace said okay great. So, the focus is really just those three agreements and then Meeks after we get this settled, I'll send over the Solar Ordinance, or the speed ordinance, the speed limit ordinance that we discussed a few weeks ago.

Mike said that's on our agenda today is it not.

Meeks said I think it's a different one. I think they want to change the speed limit on the new project. That's the old project.

Mike said okay understand.

Mike said do you have anything about the fiber agreements.

Grace said I don't.

Meeks said so that speed ordinance, it takes 45 days to go into effect after they pass it. So, I don't know when the project is going to start.

Grace said we're slated for after Labor Day weekend.

Meeks said the sooner you can get me that, sooner they can get it passed, and the sooner. We can make it effective any time after 45 days.

Grace said okay.

Tom said now are the fiber agreements done?

Meeks said I have to cross reference who we have done and who we haven't done. And so, my secretary has been on that. So that's where we're at on the fiber agreements.

Tom said well I know New Lisbon is very anxious.

Meeks said well we are trying to figure out who we've already signed up and who we haven't. I just got everything.

Tom said I think there's just four open aren't there.

Meeks said which four. I know two of them.

Tom said I think it's Chamberlain and Cheeseman and Sickels, and McCormick.

Meeks said okay you think it's those four.

Tom said yeah.

Meeks said I'll tell my secretary that then.

Meeks said we're making sure there's no other ones.

Tom said yeah there might be another one or two.

Meeks said so she's cross referencing those, with what's been recorded. And we have them on my computer.

Mike said well that was kind of on my list to add to the agenda was John Greene's email regarding the fiber conduit. And needing an updated map, and needing a definitive statement as to which property owners are on board, which are not, which want compensation, which don't. So, I guess the question I would have is. Who's going to follow up on that with them so they have the information they want by July 29th.

Tom said I'd be glad to work with him. I guess I'd want some direction though. Did I send an email his suggestion of payment?

Mike said no you did not.

Tom said okay. Anyway, he was going to reimburse us for our cost and for the cost of the fiber installation and also give people one year free.

Mike said well that was in his email.

Tom said yeah okay. I don't know how much transparency he wants to give us. I don't know how much money there is. I guess there's not a lot of revenue coming from that, but I was suggesting that we would take like \$21,000.00 for our cost and putting in the handholds and then I think was about \$90,000.00 that EDPR paid to have fiber installed, or have the conduit installed. But I guess I would probably put that, let that money go to landowners, you know, because we told them, some of them want it, some of them don't. But I guess I think, you know, we're not out that money, I would just probably put that money to the landowners however many feet they have and divide that up.

Mike said to all the landowners.

Tom said well the ones that, yeah all of them that are participating yeah. All those who signed on.

Mike said not just the ones that are holding it up.

Tom said yeah just all of them, pay everybody equally for whatever feet they gave in it. I think we ought to maybe, after ten years, we should re-evaluate or look at their, I don't know how to word that, but I don't think he needs twenty years free for that price. I think after ten years or of some time, there be an evaluation of revenue and we would negotiate some kind of reasonable deterrent for the county or whatever.

Mike said it sounds like you've put a lot of thought into this.

Tom said well anyway, that's my thoughts.

Mike said and I guess, another question that I don't know and I guess maybe you know, John at NLBC talks about, NLBC talks about having the award for southwest Randolph county, forty-five squares miles. That is theirs alone, they have a monopoly on that area.

Tom said yeah that was at the auction. They're supposed to.

Mike said they bought that. So, if Watch communications wants to go in there, they can't go in there.

Tom said that's federal, that's this federal auction. You know and it's a reverse auction. And they bid it down to a certain price and government gives them so much money, and they've got ten years. It sounds very convoluted and complicated, and I don't know the details of that other than he bid, that was the only one he got out of like 14 areas that he bid. That's the only one he received. I think his knowledge of this conduit there helped him to bid that up. That was an opportunity that probably most people weren't aware of.

Mike said so which that brings me to the other matter that was at the end of the agenda for me, but I think we should talk about it now while you're still here Grace. But I don't know if it applies to you but there's been some question raised about our steps for being a broadband ready community, which we passed an ordinance back in 2020 to say we were. And I couldn't find, I thought, I thought we appointed Gary as our single point of contact, but I couldn't find any evidence that we had done that in our minutes. I do know that Randolph United stepped up and said they would be the contact, but I'm not sure we appointed them as well. But there's other steps that need to be taken. So, I guess, since Gary's not here, I would like to add these issues to Thursday's meeting as an agenda item, that we talk about broadband ready, Watch Communications and NLBC.

Tom said yeah and I think there was some discussion since Ceann's departure, Gary's been appointed the point person for the technology committee to communicate with everybody about that.

Mike said and that raises the other issue of Tower King, is a little, I guess a they're a little confused as to what their roll is going forward. I think we, and it's going to fall back on us so we need to sort it out.

Tom said I guess, who maintains those sites those emergency communication sites. Does that fall on us I assume? We don't have any. Do we have a plan?

Mike said you mean the towers we built.

Tom said yeah the towers we built.

Mike said well we had the discussion about the maintenance on the tower themselves, but not necessarily the site or the building.

Tom said well I think there needs to be something. There's weeds, somebody's going to need to work around.

Mike said I think that's going to be us. They're our sites.

Tom said well we got to, I think they're going to need some attention, not a lot, but somebody, I don't know if we want to hang that on Jake or not.

Mike said well that's another thing to discuss. Okay. Anything else Grace.

Grace said just one more thing in terms of scheduling. We'll meet on Thursday the 21st. Originally, tomorrow I was going to sign the final, well we were going to pass hopefully, the final ERA. The council next meets on the 2nd of August, is that correct.

Meeks said correct.

Grace said so that's when we'll do that ERA, the resolution.

Mike said were they having a special meeting tomorrow.

Meeks said we didn't think we needed one so, the 2nd at the council meeting.

Grace said the 2nd okay.

Mike said then we meet on the 1st so.

Meeks said the commissioners meet on the 1st then.

Grace said right okay. Thank you.

Joe Copeland and Mike Haffner and Perry Knox – Small Structure

Joe said well I don't have good news. They've inspected 81 structures out of 134, which is roughly 60 percent so far. They've told me about 10 structures that need replaced. Out of those 10, 2 have road closures. They're telling me that they're figuring, now these are immediate replacement type things okay, that they're saying that they think approximately 34 percent of the structures so far that they've seen, will need to be replaced in the next 7 years.

Mike said so the first 10 need replaced now.

Joe said yes.

Mike said and then there's another 34 or 24.

Joe said well 34 percent of the 81 so far. So, they're thinking that may carry through with the 134 so we'll see. Now what I've seen, of course these structures are 10 to 20 feet in span okay. I've got one that's a pipe, so that will be cheaper.

Tom said are these all contractors. I mean these are things our crew can't do.

Joe said I'm not even sure they can do the corrugated metal. It's a big one. It'll all be contractor to replace them. And the question in my mind is whether we can put a pre-cast concrete box back in or whether it's going to have to be a bridge. The first one I looked at on 250 East, they closed the road and I went and looked at it. It's a real doozy. It's about a 45-degree skew with a ditch that comes in at the road and turns and then goes through the structure. Yeah it's about a 12-foot span. It's a real good one. So, I got to go out and get more information before I can put it a size to it. So, I brought my, the dgps unit, and I'm ready to go out and start getting information off of these structures, ditches and so forth.

Tom said so you're saying we need to start buying lottery tickets.

Joe said here's my, I was thinking about how much are these going to cost. And it will depend on the size of course, and configuration. But they could be anywhere from \$60,000 to \$250,000 maybe a little more, depending on their size and the way they sit. That'll be installation too. I think I can, we can handle that. Some of these bigger boxes, I put one in in Henry last year, is a 6 by 12 box, but it was longer than normal. It was about 54 feet okay, because of the road. And it cost me right around say about \$80,000 for that one with installation. Here's another problem I foresee. These concrete boxes come in 6-foot sections. And that 6 by 12 piece, the 6-foot section piece weighed 20 tons, 40,000 pounds. It takes a pretty good-sized crane. Now you start looking at these road widths on some of these boxes, we don't have a lot of road width. You bring a big crane out there to sit and they put those outriggers out, those outriggers will be in the side ditch. They won't be in the road, they'll be clear out in the side ditch. So, I got to think about how I'm going to install them properly without having problems. That's a problem.

Mike said that would be dangerous.

Joe said that is a problem. Outriggers in the side ditch. So maybe it out to be a bridge instead of, instead of a culvert. And then I'd do away with a lot of that because the crane to put in the piling wouldn't be as big, it would be a cable crane, not a hydraulic crane.

Tom said you mean you think it's cost efficient to put a bridge back rather than a culvert.

Joe said it depends.

Tom said you got a lot more to learn about it.

Joe said yeah it depends on size and how it sits, and what the road width is. That's another major factor.

Mike said so working with Mike, can you prioritize the list?

Joe said that's what SJCA is going to do.

Perry said we'll provide prioritization schedule.

Mike said on traffic and condition I guess.

Perry said condition and traffic.

Joe said I'm going to work on the two closed ones first.

Mike said okay so I want to go over these numbers again. So, 34% of 134, it's about 46. So, 34% of 81 which you've inspected, is 28. That would include the 10 that need immediate service.

Joe said yes.

Mike said and that's where you're going to start, with the two closed and then the other 8.

Joe said 8.

Mike said well the only you can do is go out and figure out how we're going to do it and tell us what it's going to cost and then we'll just pass it on to the council and let council figure out how to pay for it. Sound fair.

Perry said Joe has drove the county roads the last few months, and he's inspected the six foot and under. This inspection is the 10 to 20s. We still have another round of 6' to 10'.

Tom said yeah what are there like 380, 69 or something structures six-foot.

Mike said two hundred and some six foot and over I think.

Tom said well these are the most expensive ones, this 134, hopefully everything will be smaller and easier to replace.

Mike Haffner said we've already gotten 9 structures on order that's not even part of this program.

Mike said they're under six. They're the ones under six.

Joe said under six yes.

Mike said okay.

Joe said yeah this will keep me busy for a while.

Mike said appreciate the information.

Meeks said I would think it would keep you guys busy. I did send the road use agreements to both you. If you see anything, let me know.

Joe said when do you need it reviewed by.

Meeks said well we're going, they're going to sign it on Thursday.

Mike said when do we get a copy of it.

Meeks said I'll send it to you when I get back. We have a meeting at two o'clock. So, after the two o'clock, I'll forward it out. If there is revisions, I can put it in the email. I told them that you guys

haven't seen it yet. I sent it to you when I got it, and so they know that it's going to be like probably Tuesday or Wednesday. Prior to Thursday at nine o'clock.

Joe said Rick Hall's got something to do with it.

Meeks said yeah Rick's the one that's on, yeah. So that's very similar to the last four or five we've done, other than the red lines.

Joe said I worked with Rick on wind road use agreements.

Meeks said so it's going to look a lot like, I think that road use agreement is going to look a lot like that.

Joe said okay no problem.

Mike said okay. Missy do you have anything to share with us this morning.

Missy said I don't, thank you.

Other Business:

Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff

Mike said I don't see any mayors here this morning. That brings us to Art Moystner, Randolph County Sheriff. Art do you have anything for us.

Art said I don't have anything unless you guys have questions for me.

Mike said I don't have any questions for Art. Do you.

Tom said I want to thank you for your work Saturday night.

Regular Claims \$797,269.37

Mike said that brings us to our Regular Claims in the amount of \$797,269.37. We've received a copy of these via email. Any comments or thoughts about them. We have Danita here, she probably can, we can probably pull one of them and she can tell us all about it. Hearing none, I'd entertain a motion to approve the claims.

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

Payroll Claims \$ 224,845.24

Mike said that brings us to Payroll Claims that are presented at our place in the amount of \$224,845.24. I'd entertain a motion to approve the payroll claims.

Tom made a motion to approve the payroll claims. Mike 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 the Pyramid claims, and I don't see any reason to approve those at this time. Do you Tom?

Tom said no I don't.

Mike said okay. So, we'll leave those and continue to table those.

Tourism Appointment

Mike said next item is the Tourism Appointment, which I thought we did that last meeting, so we'll strike that.

APC/BZA attendance reports

Mike said next item is Area Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals, attendance reports. And I would commend you, Mr. Chalfant on your perfect attendance this last quarter. Do you have any questions or comments about the Area Planning?

Tom said no.

Mike said matter of fact, our two appointments were, Don Calhoun was the other one.

Tom said five out of six.

Mike said five out of six for the year, but three out of three for the quarter.

ARPA Plan Amendment

Mike said next item is the ARPA Plan Amendment which we had discussed at our last couple of meetings, and we've added to it. I think we've already talked about the highway department, so we're on the Dell computers, the loading system. Baker Tilly addition is the last one on here. So, it continues to be amended and do you have any questions Tom.

Tom said no.

Mike said do you want to look at it.

Tom said well I think I've seen it. I think I got that email.

Mike said okay.

Ridgeville Library Board appointment

Mike said Ridgeville Library Board appointment. We have a recommendation from Ruth McCormick to appoint Susie Renee Moore to the library to serve for a four-year appointment.

Tom made a motion to approve the appointment of Susie Moore to the Ridgeville Library board. Mike seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2022-22 Amending Speed limits

Mike said next item is the Ordinance 2022-22 which is an ordinance to amend the speed limit on one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven county roads to establish the speed limit permanently on those roads, certain portions of those roads to thirty miles an hour to forty-five miles per hour. This is one that we did pass an ordinance that temporarily changed the speed limit down those roads, which is down in the solar Riverstart I project, and have decided two weeks ago to make those speed limit changes permanent. And that's what this ordinance does, because the other one was going to expire the end of July or the end of August.

Tom said August 1st.

Mike said so this is Ordinance 2022, which is an ordinance for the county commissioners of Randolph County amending chapter 71, schedule 1 speed limits, and reduces the speed limits to those county roads in Randolph County. I'd entertain a motion to approve this ordinance after the first reading, by title only.

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.

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

Mike said and we'll set this up for another reading at our next, can we do it at our special meeting.

Meeks said we, we, at special meeting, we don't limit it just to one thing. It's a regularly scheduled, it's not a regularly scheduled, it's a regular commissioner meeting.

Mike said so we can put that on the agenda for Thursday and that would move it up that much quicker.

Randolph County United Claim \$18,837.00

Mike said next item on the agenda is the Randolph County, Randolph United, County United claim, a monthly draw of \$18,837.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve that claim.

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

Randolph County United Tourism Claim \$1,996.00

Mike said next item is the Randolph County United Tourism claim, their monthly draw in the amount of \$1,996.00. I'd entertain a motion to approve that claim.

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

City of Winchester Claim \$150,000.00

Mike said the next item is the City of Winchester claim in the amount of \$150,000.00. And that is from our EDIT Plan for the Willow Ridge III project, which is for water infrastructure. I'd entertain a motion to approve the City of Winchester's claim in the amount of \$150,000.00.

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

City of Winchester Claim \$100,000.00

Mike said this is another claim from the City of Winchester in the amount of \$100,000.00, which is a pledge from County Windfarm funds. I'd entertain a motion to approve this claim.

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

Mike said by the way, that Windfarm is for the same infrastructure.

Electronic Map Data Application Agreement

Mike said final thing on the agenda is Watch Systems, is requesting update on sex offender maps for law enforcement. And they are requesting the fee be waived per the sheriff. So, this is an entity helping another entity. And that's the typical place that we do waive it in that respect. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve the Electronic Map Data Application from Watch Systems, which is not the broadband supplier, but is someone that works with the sheriff. So, I'd entertain a motion to approve this.

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

Mike said that brings us to the end of our agenda. Sherry do you have anything for us.

Sherry said I have permanent records.

Mike said permanent minutes. Is that it. Meeks do you have anything for us.

Meeks said I do not have anything.

Mike said Tom do you have anything for us.

Tom said do we want to talk about all these requests about this amphitheater and money from Albany Heights.

Mike said is he here. Randy here.

Tom said no.

Mike said I think Randy is planning to come to a meeting.

Tom said okay yeah.

Mike said I invited him and I hope I didn't confuse him when I told him when our meetings were, but I invited him at our EDIT meeting. And he seemed like he wanted to come. I don't know, has he contacted your office. He's going to contact Laura and get on the agenda.

Tom said do we know how many people live in Albany Heights. I think that would be valuable information if we tried to figure out how much money to allocate. About \$200.00 per person in Randolph County from ARPA through that, that close number I think. 4.7 million.

Mike said it's pretty close. Randy should be able to tell us that.

Tom said yeah I asked him about it so hopefully he will, but I think 75,000 is a stretch probably.

Mike said I think, I guess I would probably wait to put Randy on the agenda so he can share his vision and story with us.

Tom said okay.

Mike said anything else.

Tom said no.

Mike said my item for the broadband ready matter, Watch Communications, Tower King, and NLBC all have to do with broadband. We're going to talk about that Thursday.

Meeks said can we get some of those emails you got. I've not seen them.

Mike said I can. I can. Did you get one from Tower King.

Meeks said I have not seen any.

Mike said I'll send them all to you.

Meeks said I haven't seen any

Mike said when you send me the agreements, I'll send them all to you.

Citizen Comments

Mike said do we have any citizen comments this morning. Okay. Ed we do have one item, you're not on the agenda, but at our last drainage board we did talk about a project to repair the drainage at our emergency communication towers at Deerfield School. And I see you are here this morning. Is that something we want to wait until Gary, I think we probably ought to wait until Gary returns.

Ed Thornburg said that's fine with me. Basically, I'm going to find out, you know, who's going to pay for it.

Mike said well I think, right, but I think we talked about obviously, the drainage board doesn't have funds to pay for it, so it would be, either the county or some of the county's agents would be required to pay for it. And I'm not sure we want to wait on that to repair the drainage out there. But I also, Gary's been pretty involved in the emergency communications project so I wouldn't want to make a decision without him being here.

Ed Thornburg said that's fine. Our basic plan was to make these repairs as crops come off because we're liable to wipe out that guy's field. But I say, just need to, want to look at to find my funding source, then I can get everything done.

Mike said line up the contractors. Okay. So, we'll add that to the agenda too. It's going to be a long meeting Thursday, longer than this one.

Tom said I got a 1:30.

Mike said we'll be out of here by then. Thanks Ed.

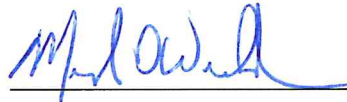
Adjournment

Mike said well with nothing else, I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

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

Reviewed and signed this 3 day of October, 2022.


RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS







ATTEST:



Laura J Martin, Auditor of Randolph County