COMMISSIONER MEETING
~~DECEMBER 16, 2025~~
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167

THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD AT 8:00 A.M. PRESENT WERE COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN, COMMISSIONER TONY CARDWELL, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AND AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON. COMMISSIONER MARSHALL WAS ABSENT. THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFY THAT THE ONLY ITEMS DISCUSSED WERE I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT MATTER OF INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES, I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B) INITIATION OF LITIGATION OR LITIGATION THAT IS EITHER PENDING OR HAS BEEN THREATENED SPECIFICALLY IN WRITING.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE COMMISSIONER EWEN, COMMISSIONER CARDWELL, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON. COMMISSIONER MARSHALL WAS ABSENT.

BRAD GILBERT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. PRESTON SHELL GAVE THE PRAYER.

COMMISSIONER EWEN ASKED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SEONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **LUCY BRENTON – COUNTY BUSINESS**
  MS BRENTON SPOKE ABOUT DATA CENTERS AND SOLAR FARMS AND WOULD LIKE TO NOT SEE THEM ALLOWED IN THE COUNTY. SHE ALSO DISAGREES WITH WHAT IS WRITTEN IN THE MINUTES WHEN SHE SPEAKS.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 2, 2025**
  CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 2, 2025 COMMISSIONER MEETING. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

- **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND PAYROLL**
  CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CLAIMS AND PAYROLL. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

- **KNAPP MILLER BROWN – COMMERCIAL INSURANCE RENEWAL RATES**
  ZACK RICHARDS HAS BEEN WORKING ON GETTING COMMERCIAL INSURANCE RATES. TWO CARRIERS HAVE DECLINED THE COUNTY. TRAVELERS INSURANCE IS REVIEWING BUT WILL MOST LIKELY NOT BE OFFERING A PLAN UNTIL THE SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENTS THE USUAGE OF BODY CAMERAS. COMMISSIONER EWEN ENCOURAGED MR RICHARDS TO REACH OUT TO SHERIFF MILLER ABOUT STARTING THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING BODY CAMERAS. MR RICHARDS HOPES TO HAVE RENEWAL NUMBERS BY THE JANUARY 6, 2025 MEETING.

- **INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO SHARE RIVERBOAT REVENUE HARRISON COUNTY**
  HARRISON COUNTY PROVIDED AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR RIVERBOAT SHARES. PREVIOUS YEARS, THE COUNTY HAS RECEIVED 2% OF THE REVENUE FROM THE RIVERBOAT. HARRISON COUNTY HAS NOW DROPPED THE SHARES TO 1%. CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HARRISON COUNTY. COMMISSIONER EWEN SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED.

- **RIVER HILLS BOARD APPOINTMENT**
  RIVER HILLS REQUESTED THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL TO THE BOARD BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2026. PRESTON SHELL CURRENTLY SITS ON THE BOARD TO REPRESENT THE COMMISSIONERS. CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO RE-APPOINT PRESTON SHELL TO THE RIVER HILLS BOARD. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

- **FAIRGROUNDS MOWING CONTRACT**
  FOUR BIDS WERE RECEIVED FOR THE MOWING CONTRACT AT THE FAIRGROUNDS. GREEN'S LANDSCAPING WAS THE LOWEST BIDDER AT $21,000.00 A YEAR. THERE WILL BE A MINIMUM OF 35 MOWINGS A YEAR AND ANY ADDITIONAL WORK OR MOWING

WILL BE $600.00 EACH. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO PROVIDE PROOF OF INSURANCE.
~~CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT GREEN'S LANDSCAPING FOR THE FAIRGROUNDS MOWING. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN.~~ MOTION PASSED.

- **BRIDGE 61 BID OPENING**
  BRIDGE 61 ON BATA ROAD RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR BIDS. THOSE BIDS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING: TEMPLE AND TEMPLE - $378,300.00
  C & R CONSTRUCTION - $427,488.00
  CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT AND REVIEW ALL BIDS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

REPORTS

- **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT UPDATE**
  PLUMBING WORK WILL BE COMPLETED ON THE OFFICE BUILDING TODAY AS WELL AS THE PAINTING. THE HVAC INDOOR UNITS WILL BE INSTALLED IN ALL THREE BUILDINGS BY MONDAY. THE GAS LINE BILL BE INSTALLED BY PARKS PLUMBING BY END OF THE WEEK. THE MECHANICS SHOP IS FINISHING UP WITH THE FIRE WALL FRAMING AND WIL HAVE ELECTRICAL PULLED TO THE BUILDING THURSDAY. SIGHT WORK IS WRAPPING UP AND THE BINDER WILL BE DONE THIS WEEK.

- **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**
  SUPERINTENDENT VOYLES EXPLAINED COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT AND LMDD (LANE MILE DIRECT DISTRIBUTION). THE COUNTY APPLIED FOR THE COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT THIS YEAR BUT DID NOT RECEIVE IT. SEVERAL COUNTIES IN THE STATE DID NOT RECEIVED THE GRANT THIS YEAR. NOT IMPLEMENTING THE WHEEL TAX DID NOT AFFECT THE COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT SELECTION. SUPERINTENDENT VOYLES DOES NOT THINK APPLYING FOR THE LMDD WOULD BE A GOOD FIT FOR THE COUNTY.

  SUPERINTENDENT VOYLES PRESENTED A CONTRACT ADDENDUM FROM FLECK ENGINEERING. THE COST OF THE CONTRACT IS $20,000.00. CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT WITH FLECK ENGINEERING. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

  THE RECENT WEATHER EVENTS HAVE WENT WELL AND THE COUNTY HIGHWAY WORKERS HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB WITH KEEPING THE COUNTY ROADS IN GOOD SHAPE.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND CARDWELL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER PHILLIP MARSHALL

COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN

COMMISSIONER TONY CARDWELL

ATTEST:
AUDITOR, KYRA STEPHENSON