

**MARSHALL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2025**

The Board of Commissioners of Marshall County, Indiana, met for a special meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, January 2, 2025. Present were Commissioners, Stan Klotz, Jesse Bohannon, and Adam Faulstich as well as County Auditor, Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting was opened, streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>, the Pledge of Allegiance was given and the business at hand was heard.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to retain Stan Klotz as President and appoint Jesse Bohannon as Vice President of the Marshall County Board of Commissioners for 2025. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTORNEY APPOINTMENT

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to hire Sean Surrisi of Wyland, Humphrey, Clevenger & Surrisi, LLP as the County Attorney. Motion carried 3-0.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve the 2025 Proposal for Legal Services between the Board of Commissioners and Wyland, Humphrey, Clevenger & Surrisi, LLP for calendar year 2025 and to allow the Board President to sign the agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD APPOINTMENTS

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to reappoint the following individuals to the respective departments:

**Billy Schoff, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor-Courthouse
John Greer, Building & Grounds Supervisor-Jail
Chuck Garmon, Building Commissioner
Sandy Garrison, Museum Director
Jerry Huss, Weights & Measures Inspector
Jason Peters, Highway Superintendent
Pam Schweizer-Betz, Veterans Service Officer
Jack Garner, EMA Director
Michael Marshall, IT Director
Jennier Daake, Human Resources Administrator**

Motion carried 3-0.

MORATORIUM

Attorney Surrisi explained that Indiana Code allows the Board to initiate a proposal to amend the Zoning Ordinance and require the Plan Commission to conduct a public hearing on the proposal. Attorney Surrisi presented the following Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance: 25-PC-2: Regarding a Moratorium on Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems; 25-PC-3: Regarding a Moratorium on Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems; 25-PC-4: Regarding a Moratorium on Data Centers; and 25-PC-5: Regarding a Moratorium on Carbon Capture for

consideration. He further explained that if approved it would pause development for two years from the date enacted. This would provide time for the Board of Commissioners to work with the Plan Commission to develop standards. If approved by the Commissioners, the next step would be for the Plan Commission to hold a public hearing and then make a recommendation to the Board.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve 25-PC-2: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding a Moratorium on Farm-Scale Solar Energy Systems. Motion carried 3-0.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve 25-PC-3: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding a Moratorium on Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems. Motion carried 3-0.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve 25-PC-4: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding a Moratorium on Data Centers. Motion carried 3-0.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to approve 25-PC-5: Certified Proposal to Amend the Marshall County Zoning Ordinance Regarding a Moratorium on Carbon Capture. Motion carried 3-0.

BOWEN CENTER BUILDING PURCHASE

President Klotz stated the Health Department is currently paying \$104,000 per year in month to month rent payments to the Community Resource Center. The contract allows for a 90-day notice to terminate the agreement. The Bowen Center building is available for purchase in the sum of \$450,000. Health Department Administrator Sandy Dunfee stated that with the additional space, they will be able to offer additional services. President Klotz stated that the building has been inspected and is in working order, but the air conditioning units are 25 years old. The Health Department will contribute \$250,000 towards the purchase of the building, along with \$100,000 for renovations. The remaining \$200,000 will be paid with county funds over a two year period with no interest. The Health Board has signed a letter of agreement to enter a contract to purchase the Bowen Health Building on Dora Lane in Plymouth.

An owner of the Community Resource Center asked for an explanation of the \$104,000 in rent. He stated that for transparency purposes the rent is \$36,000. Commissioner Klotz stated that the rent is \$36,000 but would increase to \$104,000 with the lease of additional space and that this item was not open for a public hearing.

Jesse Bohannon moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to empower the Board President and Attorney Surrisi to negotiate a deal with the Bowen Center and take the proposal to the Council. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Klotz asked Dave Douglass, one of owners of the Community Resource Center, if he would like to speak. Mr. Douglass asked what the point was for public comments since the Board has already passed the motion. Commissioner Klotz agreed that there isn't a point.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 am. Motion carried 3-0.**

Stan Klotz, President

Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: _____
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

Adam Faulstich, Member