

**MARSHALL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2025**

The Board of Commissioners of Marshall County, Indiana, met for a regular meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana at 9:30 a.m., Monday, March 17, 2025. Present were Commissioners, Stan Klotz, President and Adam Faulstich, Member; County Attorney Sean Surrisi; as well as County Auditor, Angela C. Birchmeier. Jesse Bohannon, Vice President was absent. 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.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public input concerning agenda items was heard.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department Superintendent Jason Peters presented a road surface cut request from Northern Indiana Public Service Company on 1B Road, between Kimble Street and US 31, in North Township, for the purpose of replacing 300' of 4" coated steel metal pressure (CSMP) gas line.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the road surface cut request from Northern Indiana Public Service Company on 1B Road, between Kimble Street and US 31, in North Township, for the purpose of replacing 300' of 4" CSMP due to corrosion. Motion carried 2-0.

Superintendent Peters presented a right-of-way cut request from Brightspeed on N. Ule Trail, between Tyler Road and W. 1st Road, in Polk Township, for the purpose of boring new copper and fiber facilities to remove bridge attachments prior to the replacement of Bridge 1. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the right-of-way cut request from Brightspeed on N. Ule Trail, between Tyler Road and W. 1st Road, in Polk Township, for the purpose of boring new copper and fiber facilities to remove bridge attachments prior to the replacement of Bridge 1. Motion carried 2-0.**

Superintendent Peters provided an update on the following projects:
Bridge 11, Union Road: No updates.

Bridge 1, Ule Road (Local Project): Two bids have been received and were opened for the replacement of Bridge 1 as follows:

Contractor	Amount
LaPorte Construction	\$706,269.81
Milestone Contractors LP	\$798,461.78

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to accept and take the bids under advisement. Motion carried 2-0.

Bridge 232, Randolph Street: LaPorte Construction was able to begin driving sheeting for the cofferdam for Pier 2. Since the river is still slightly high, the sheets were left high until they needed to be driven to the correct elevation. They will continue with Pier 2 cofferdam construction and tear out the existing bent #1 if water levels come up over the weekend due to unexpected rain/snow.

Due to when the construction started on the project, and dates that had to be modified, new milestone and completion dates have been discussed with INDOT and the contractor.

A “Preliminary Completion Date” has been added which means the bridge is open to trolleys and safe for pedestrian traffic. Basically, the bridge needs to be done, but approaches and miscellaneous items can be stoned, barreled or fenced off for the festival. Then the bridge can be closed after the festival to finish all the remaining work. The goal is to have the whole project done and open to traffic by the festival, but in case of weather, this allows for some flexibility.

The Preliminary Intermediate Completion date is set for August 22, 2025, which would be about five days before the festival. The Intermediate Completion Date has been moved back 242 days to October 31, 2025. The Contract Completion Date for Notice to Terminate has been moved back 60 days to May 31, 2026. The Closure is extended by 57 days to a total of 297 instead of 240.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the schedule modification dates as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

Bridge 231, Center Street, Bremen: No updates.

Bridge 88, 12th Road east of Olive Trail: The letting date is January 14, 2029. A field check meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Bridge 108, East 7th Road: The letting date is February 12, 2030. A field check meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Bridge Inspections 2022-2025 Phase II: No updates.

Bridge Inspections 2026-2029: Request for proposals have been sent to INDOT and were posted on March 4th. The due date is April 4th at 2:00 p.m.

Mill Pond Dam Improvements: The Department of Natural Resources is requesting that we provide the weir flow calculations to confirm that a non-modeling approach is acceptable. A calculation of the weir flow capacity with the discharge at the project location, versus the pipe flow capacity should be made. This information will be provided by DLZ.

Call for Projects (Notice of Funding Availability NOFA) – Highway Safety Improvement Program: HSIP Countywide Striping Initiative: No updates.

HSIP Digital Speed Limit Trailer: No updates.

HISIP Safety Guardrail Installation: No updates.

Call for Projects (NOFA) – Linden Road: No updates.

Call for Projects (NOFA) – Michigan Road Bridge #2540: No updates.

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG): A meeting was held with the grant manager to set up access in the tracking system for document submission.

Community Crossings 2025-01: Marshall County was awarded \$1.5 million. The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be posted in the next few weeks for bids on the following projects:

- 9th Road, Pioneer Road to County Line
- 16C Road, Redwood Road to Pear Road
- 3rd Road, King Road to West Shore Drive
- Nutmeg Meadows Subdivision

MARSHALL-STARKE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Marshall-Starke Development Center Vice President of Missions Advancement Jessye Gilley provided an overview of the history of Marshall-Starke Development Center, the counties served, programs offered, the number of participants being served, funding sources, and life skills training. They will begin a quarterly appeal process seeking monetary contributions, volunteers, and sponsorships. A capital campaign will be launched for renovation.

MARSHALL COUNTY BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Marshall County Boys & Girls Club CEO Andrew Fitzpatrick and Director of Operational Advancement Joanna Flora provided an update on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Marshall County. He provided the average membership and program costs, organization statistical data, a listing of popular programs and activities, and special activities, events, and field trips. The numbers have increased significantly following the pandemic.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Administrator Jennifer Daake requested permission to purchase a new Toshiba copier from AdamsRemco in the amount of \$6,379. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the purchase of a new copier from AdamsRemco in the amount of \$6,379. Motion carried 2-0.**

EMA

President Klotz presented the Subrecipient Grant Agreement Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program under Contract Number 91911. The agreement is between the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and Marshall County to reimburse 50% of the EMA Director's wages for the calendar year 2024 in the amount of \$30,000.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Subrecipient Grant Agreement Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Community Corrections Director Beau Holcomb requested permission to apply for the Indiana Department of Corrections Community Corrections Grant. He explained they are seeking funding for Community Corrections, Prosecutor Diversion, and the Drug Court. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to allow the Community Corrections Director to apply for the Community Corrections Grant for Calendar Year 2026. Motion carried 2-0.**

ATTORNEY REPORT

Bowen Building Purchase: A closing on the purchase of the Bowen Building is currently scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at McKesson Title at 11:00 a.m.

BZA Appeal: Since the last meeting, Attorney Surrisi consulted with BZA Attorney Derek Jones and outside counsel Bob Ehrenman regarding Tamarack Solar Energy, LLC's appeal of the BZA's December denial of the company's special exception application. The BZA filed its brief in opposition to Tamarack's motion for change of venue from the county. Tamarack is now afforded an opportunity to file a reply brief before the Court rules on the motion. Preparation of the BZA hearing record materials is ongoing.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

FY24-26 Sotoxa Grant: First Sergeant Nick Lafoon explained that the Sheriff's Department applied for the FY24-26 Sotoxa Grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI). The grant provides two SoToxa oral fluid analyzer devices. The devices test samples of saliva provided by a cooperative suspect. The sample is then tested by this device for the presence of several different controlled substances. First Sergeant Lafoon presented the Sotoxa Instrument Program Grant Agreement under Contract #91131 for approval. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to allow the Sheriff Department to apply for the Sotoxa Grant as requested. Motion carried 2-0.**

CHIRP Grant: Sheriff Matt Hassel requested permission to apply for the Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program (CHIRP), a federally funded grant through National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The funding allows officers to work additional hours focused on traffic violations, occupant protection laws, and impaired driving enforcement all to make Marshall County roadways safer. This is a multi-agency effort which includes Bremen, Bourbon, Argos, Culver, Plymouth, and Marshall County police departments. Marshall County will serve as the host agency and the Auditor's Office is requested to be the fiscal agent to distribute funds received by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) to the participating departments.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to allow the Sheriff Department to apply for the Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Sotoxa Instrument Program Grant Agreement as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

AUDITOR REPORT

March 3, 2025 Minutes: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the March 3, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Accounts Payable Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the accounts payable claims as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Payroll Claims: **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the payroll claims as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-11: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Commissioners Establishing the Marshall County Public Safety Grant Program. The council approved Ordinance 2025-12 to establish the fund at their March 10th meeting. Discussion was held concerning units meeting certain milestones to be able to receive funding, possibly training. John Grolich stated countywide training would be a good avenue but questioned who or what establishes countywide training.

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve with revisions Ordinance 2025-11: An Ordinance of the Marshall County Commissioners Establishing the Marshall County Public Safety Grant Program on first reading. Motion carried 2-0.

Council on Aging De-obligation of Federal and State Transit Funds: INDOT has provided notification of Grant Close Out and De-obligation for the following INDOT Transit Grants:

- FTA 5311 Operating Funds / Purchase Order 20100837 / \$20,397
- FTA 5339 Capital Vehicle Funds / Purchase Order 20121316 / \$1,404

Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the De-obligation of Federal and State Transit Funds, as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

Dustin's Place Capital Campaign Agreement: The Capital Campaign Agreement between Marshall County Board of Commissioners and Dustin's Place for the initial contribution of \$75,000 was presented for approval. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Capital Campaign Contribution Agreement between Marshall County and Dustin's Place in the initial sum of \$75,000. Motion carried 2-0.**

Cottage Watchman Proposal: Cottage Watchman proposal #14010 for the replacement and installation of cameras and recorder at the Museum in the amount of \$4,025.50 was presented for signature. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the Cottage Watchman proposal as presented. Motion carried 2-0.**

Prepay Request-Bowen Building Purchase: The closing of the Bowen Building purchase is scheduled for tomorrow. A prepayment is requested in the amount of \$251,510. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve prepayment to McKesson Title in the amount of \$251,510 as requested. Motion carried 2-0.**

Prepay Request-Hyper Wave: The cameras have been updated in the Courthouse and County Building. A prepayment is requested in the amount of \$27,743.89. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve prepayment to Hyper Wave in the amount of \$27,743.89 as requested. Motion carried 2-0.**

Vehicle Purchase – Maintenance Department: President Klotz requested permission to purchase a 2025 Ford F250 for the Maintenance Department. He stated the vehicle would replace one of the 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 trucks, which could be sold at auction. An estimate from Oliver Ford was presented in the amount of \$47,635. **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to approve the purchase of a second 2025 Ford F250 from Oliver Ford in the amount of \$47,635 for the Maintenance Department. Motion carried 2-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the board **Adam Faulstich moved, second by Stan Klotz, to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. Motion carried 2-0.**

Stan Klotz, President

Jesse Bohannon, Vice President

ATTEST: _____
Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor

Adam Faulstich, Member